THE INDEPENDENT

INSIDE TODAY

James Bond: He could last forever

THE EYE



Is that breast examination really necessary?

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Dataholics caught in the Web

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TODAY'S NEWS

Hope of breakthrough in Kyoto climate talks

Ministers from the United States, Japan and the European Union negotiated far into the small hours In Kyoto, trying to find a common position between the industrialised countries which could pave the way to a breakthrough at the stalled global climate talks in Japan. Afterwards a weary and tacitum John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, sald there would have to further talks today on the latest US proposals.

The group met after a day of soaring rhetoric and tough, cloistered negotiations which included an eagerly anticipated speech by Al Gore, the US vicepresident. "I am instructing our delegation right now to show increased negotiating flexibility," he said. Mr Gore would not specify what "flexibility" America was offering, but it is understood that the US is now ready to cut its annual emissions of climate-changing carbon dioxide to slightly below their 1990 level by around 2010, instead of only stabilising them.

Kinza Clodumar, president of the tiny Pacific island of Nauru, put global warming in perspective when he said his low-lying country was threatened with "a terrifying rising flood of biblical proportions". Page S

Evans buys Virgin radio

Chris Evans, maverick DJ and entrepreneur, has bought Virgin Radio from Richard Branson for a reported £80m. His bid was accepted last night ahead of that made by Capital Radio. Mr Evans will create Ginger Media Group to own the station; it will also produce Evan's Channel 4 show TFI Friday. Page 3

Social inclusion?

The Prime Minister yesterday launched the Social Exclusion Unic, a group of advisers working inside the Cabinet Office producing ideas and recommendations intended to break the cycle of poverty and crime that afflicts many estates. He said the unit's priority would be a sustained attack on truancy.

Our leading article wishes the unit well, but warns against being over-ambitious, and suggests that the Government should concentrate on a small set of solutions that are known to work. Pages 7 and 17



her mother after receiving a new liver when she was just five days old. Full story, page 3

Merger wave threatens thousands of banking jobs

Speculation that UK banking could be in for a major shake-out reached fever pitch yesterday with confirmation of a multi-billion pound deal between two Swiss banking giants. Lea Paterson reports.

The City was predicting last night that a link-up between Barclays and NatWest, with the loss of thousands of UK. jobs, could be one consequence of the Swiss bank merger.

The Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) and the Swiss Bank Corporation (SBC) confirmed that they were to join forces. creating the world's secondlargest bank.

The 3,000 redundancies said to be on the cards in the City were more than had been expected. Highly paid traders, whose annual bonuses can top £1m, will be among the casualties, as will employees in both IT and finance.

UBS and SBC's decision to merge was prompted by a wave of mergers in the world of investment banking, "Mega-deals" this summer between a number of US banking giants has led many in the industry to believe that big truly is beautiful.

"The worldwide wave of consolidation in the financial services industry has made size an increasingly critical factor for any financial services provider most successful players worldwide", said the Swiss banks, ex-

plaining their decision to link

Industry experts were predicting that the SBC/UBS deal was by no means the last, and eyes turned to British banks NatWest and Barclays, whose sbares soared yesterday on speculation they could announce merger plans.

Both Nat West and Barclays recently admitted they were unable to become global banking giants, and sold off large parts of their investment banking operations at bargain basement prices. City commentators predict a merger could throw a financial lifeline to the two embatticd banks. But any linkup between the two High Street giants would be at the cost of thousands of jobs.

The UK's competition authorities could prove the one obstacle to a link-up between NatWest and Barclays, which are understood to bave had informal merger talks. However, legal experts said it was "unlikely but not out of the question" that the two hanks could be given the green light.

Though staff in hranches at leading UK retail banks often struggle to move jobs following waves of cuthacks and reorganisations, employment difficulties have yet to hil the glamorous investment banking sector. Investment banks create hundreds of instant millionaires each year during their lucrative bonus season, scheduled to start this week.

But recruitment specialists continue, this year's "bonus bonanza" could be the last.

On cuts, rebels, and even those offshore trusts - Blair fights back

Tony Blair last night faced down critics inside and outside the party. He refused to 'bottle out' on the lone parents' benefit cut, and backed his Paymaster General. Geoffrey Robinson, to the hilt. Anthony Bevins and Fran Abrams witnessed a fierce fightback.

The Prime Minister, ministers. whips - and libel lawyers - yesterday took concerted action to quell internal parry dissent. and external artack on the central integrity of the Government

While the Sunday Tones and Observer received tawyers' letters demanding front-page apologies for allegedly defamatory articles about the personal tax affairs of Mr Robinson. the Prime Minister definitly stood by his colleague and

friend in a Channel 4 News interview - and told potential backbench Labour rebels that there was no alternative to making the proposed cut in lone parent child benefit.

Faced with a host of "worthy claims", from farmers and miners as well as lone parents, and a budget deficit that had to be tackled because of the burden of interest charges. Mr Blair said that if the Tory legacv was not tackled, people didn't take the right decisions: and ended up with the old boom and bust Tory cycle, and interest rates at 15 per cent, and borrowing out of control.

"Then you'd find it wouldn't just be cuts in single parents' benefit, or any of the rest of the things on the agenda, it would he massive changes to public spending as a result of having lost control of the economy. We can't do it."

Ministers and Labour whips

were mounting a "good guy, bad guy" exercise as MPs returned to Westminster - with some of them intent upon rebelling against the lone parents' benefit cut in a Commons vote on the Social Security Bill to-

morrow night. Rebels predicted that between 20 and 30 MPs would vote against the Government and there was talk of more revolts to come - on disability benefits and on the creation of would say, "We bottled out; an elected mayor for London. At least 120 Labour MPs are

thought to be unbappy with the lone parents' measure, which will leave new claimants about £10 a week worse off from

Last night. Westminster rumours were rife that MPs were being asked to stay away if they, could not bring themselves to support the Government Loyalists were being asked to cancel other arrangements to ensure that they could be pre-

sent. A select committee trip to There is to be no Treasury sup-Northern Ireland was post- port for his legal moves. poned. A stream of backmeetines with ministers, and some emerged encouraged by da Tax Haven", was inaccurate what they had beard.

However, others, perhaps those less likely to respond to the tea-and-biscuits treatment, ty whips. Brian Sedgemore. MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, wrote to Nick Brown, the Chief Whip, describing the wbips as "arm-

twisters and goofie-crusbers". But Mr Blair's stand on Charnel & News last night marked out his determination to renfain firm on the need to bring the economy back to grudent balance - combined with an appeal to supporters to bave patience, and faith.

As for Mr Robinson, his lawyers' letters showed he had the ability, and the financial clout, to look after himself.

His lawyers told The Sunday

benchers was invited to Times that its weekend report, headlined "Robinson's Bermuand defamatory, adding: "Mr Geoffrey Robinson has never bad any money, shares or any assets in Trust or otherwise were being approached by par- held in Bermuda. Neitber Mr Rohinson, nor his wife, nor children are or ever have been beneficiaries of any Trust in Bermuda, or in any way connected with such a Trust."

The Observer allegations were more complex - suggesting that Mr Robinson was something more than a discre-

tionary beneficiary of the Guernscy-based Orion Trust. as the minister had agreed in a statement on 29 November. The lawyers' letter said that was untrue and his earlier statement

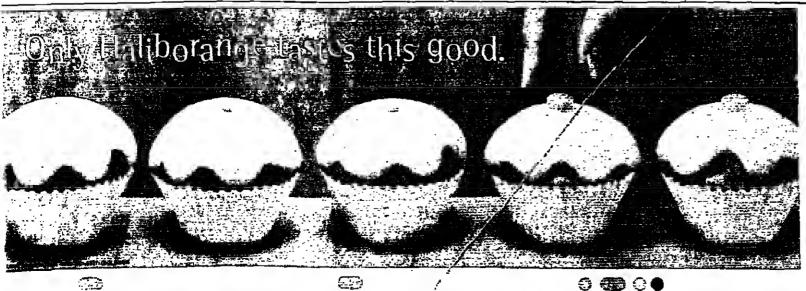
remained entirely accurate. Mr Blair said last night: "In a society, you get two sorts: those that carp and are cynical about everything, and those that actually want to try and do their best, in an imperfect world, to make a contribution."

He said Mr Robinson was a highly-experienced businessman, and an extremely good minister, who gave his high-calibre services for no ministerial



TELLEVISION The Eye, page 12 CROSSIVORES Page 28 and the Eye, page 9

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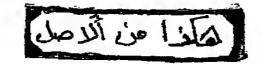
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COLUMN ONE

Lobsterman steamed up about one that got away

The world was almost Bernard Warner's lobster (as Bobby Robson, the former England manager, once famously said, mixing up his seafood) hut

The crustacean that is. Apparently pale and old, it turoed out to be almost worth its weight in gold.

For by the time Mr Warner realised that the oversized, grey lobster fished out of the sea was in fact a rare albino, worth more than £20,000,

He was on holiday in Madeira and the priceless crustacean had been hoiled and eaten by some unsuspecting diner.

Mr Warner, 52, from Doncaster, sonth Yorkshire, had acquired the offwhite specimen in a routine delivery from the East Coast. It was two and half times the size of an average lobster, weighed between two and three pounds, compared to the usual one pound, and was covered in barnacles. "The comments at the time were: 'We'll never sell that, because it's too hig." he recalled yesterday.

Neverthetess, he sent it on to Mrs B's Fish Emporium in Doncaster, along with a batch of pink lobsters. A week later, in a restaurant in Madeira, he woke up to the true value of the rogue specimen. "We were passing



Nippy customer: A normal lobster. examples of which fetch a decent price, but nothing like the riches Bernard Warner, a Yorkshire purveyor of crustaceans, would have come into had he not unwittingly disposed of a rare lbino specimen

comment on the price of a lobster," recalled Mr Warner, who has worked in the family husiness, Warner's Fish Merchants Ltd, for the past 40 years. "It was about £40 and we said: 'We'd never get that in Doncaster.' The manager said: 'What about this one?' and passed us an article about a similar looking albino lobster recently found in America.

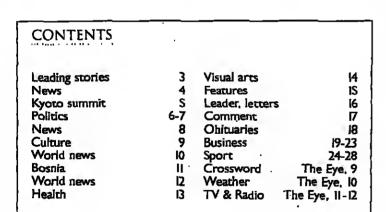
The fraught fishmonger sped to the telephone and rang his sister-inlaw, Brenda, at Mrs B's. She was "quite proud" of the fact that she had sold the large lobster, he said. "I couldn't believe it. In all my time as a fishmonger I've never come across one before. I'm pig sick." His wife, Chris, was "gutted".

Mr Warner sells his lobsters to restaurants and private customers throughout the country and he has no idea where his prize catch went. Given that it was boiled at Mrs B's, it was probably eaten fresh - and the customer paid cash, so there is no invoice. "Someone has had a very valuable meal without even knowing it," he said. "For me it's like winning the lottery and then discovering you have thrown the ticket away."

The alhino lobster featured in the article read by Mr Warner was found Maine. At first it was dismissed as a plastic toy, Bill Coppersmith, the lobsterman who caught it, thought it was a practical joke. "It looked like someone had planted a toy in the pot," he said. Now "Lionel", as the lobster has been nicknamed, is being hailed as one of the rarest live finds in marine history and one private collector is reportedly offering £14,000 for

Mr Coppersmith is "real curious" to see what colour Lionel would turn if he was cooked, "hut if he's worth that much, perhaps I can live with not finding out," he said. Another alhino lobster, "Barry", which weighs 11h 20z, resides at the Sea Life Centre in Scarborough, oorth Yorkshire. Following the discovery of Lionel, the centre's owners woke up to Barry's worth, Barry is now insured for £20,000.

But none of that helps Mr Warner, who has resigned himself to laughing off his misfortune - and looking a little closer at his lobsters in future.



PEOPLE



Atkins and her daughter Adelaide (below), who went missing at the weekend

Problems come home for newspaper agony aunt

Adelaide Atkins, 12-year-old daughter of Anne, the Daily Telegraph's agony auni and moral crusader, has sparked an intensive search after going missing.

There was a note on the kitchen table saying: "Back shortly, don't worry." Under Saturday's diary entry the child had written: "I depart today." Apart from her Post Office book, nothing else seems to be missing from her bedroom.

The scenario could have heen plucked from her mother's column. But, rather than handing out advice, Mrs Atkins and her husband Shaun, a vicar, have been plunged into their own nightmare.

Police helicopters and dogs searched the Fulham area of London, near the family's home, yesterday looking for Adelaide. She was last seen at 9pm on Saturday when she went to hed.

At first the family were not too concerned but by 2pm they alerted police when Adelaide, described as a reserved girl whose disappearance is totally out of character, failed to turn up for church or lunch. Adelaide is 5ft tall, slim with hazel eyes and

mousey, with hair cut in a page-boy style. According to Mrs Atkins she "did not have any particular problems. We keep thinking she'll walk in any minute, but the longer it goes on the more vice for homosexuals at Southwark Cathedral.



anxious we get. She's really not at all worldly wise and doesn't even like going on the Tube on her own. -We are terribly worried. I deal with these traumas through my column but it's totally different when

it happens to you." Mrs Atkins rose to prominence after causing a stir on Radio 4's Thought for the Day when she condemned the Church of England for allowing a ser-

Assault charge for Bobbit's former wife

The former Lorena Bobbitt, accused of cutting off her husband's penis with a kitchen knife in 1994. arrived in court yesterday to face charges of assaulting her mother.

Lorena Gallo, who has used her maiden name since her divorce from John Wayne Bohhitt in 1995, was scheduled to be arraigned yesterday. If she is convicted, she faces a maximum penalty of a year in jail and a \$2,500 (£1,500) fine. Ms. Gallo's parents accompanied her to the courthouse.

Ms. Gallo, 28, (pictured right) had been living with her parents. Neighbours told police that her mother, 49-year-old Elvia Gallo, was watching television on Friday morning when her daughter entered the room and started punching her with a closed fist, police said

on Sunday. Elvia Gallo's son separated the

two women. She was arrested at a friend's house, and later freed on \$750 bail. Ms. Gallo, who has an unlisted telephone number, could not be



During her widely-publicised fine. trial in 1994, Ms. Gallo said years

was reattached surgically.

Mr Bohhitt, now 30, said last Commons, month that he was leaving a life of reached for comment over the lon, Nevada, where four of his five to the prosecution before the case brothers live.

MP wins red light case

Ann Clwyd, the Labour MP, was vesterday cleared of driving through a red traffic light after staging her own reconstruction of the police case against her.

Mrs Clwyd positioned her car at a road junction in Cardiff and shot photos from the window to support her defence that two officers sitting in a panda car could not have had a clear view of her alleged offence.

The 60-year-old former shadow minister denied she was an "amher Her mother suffered minor in- gamhler" and told Cardiff magisjuries, including an abrasion trates' court that she was so conaround the eyes and minor scratch- vinced of her innocence she chose es, said police Lieutenant Paul not to take the easy way out and pay the £40 on-the-spot fixed penalty

Mrs Clwyd, MP for Cynon Valof sexual abuse drove her to cut off ley and a former shadow employher former husband's penis, which ment secretary, was stopped by the officers last February, only two min-She was found not guilty of ma- utes away from her home in St licious wounding hy reason of Michael's Road, Llandaff, Cardiff after driving from the House of

Mrs Clwyd said she would lodge talk shows and porno movies and an official complaint with South moving to the small town of Fal- Wales police about publicity given came to court.

UPDATE

Inmates 'should be allowed alcohol'

Prisoos should consider allowing inmates to drink alcohol - and even set up "simulated bars" - to encourage "sensible" drinking, according to an official report published yesterday.

The Prison Service's Health Advisory Committee said the lack of opportunity to consume alcohol behind bars was actually a disadvantage when

At the same time however, the committee called for a strict ban on drinking by prison staff while on duty. It said officers should be encouraged to go for lunchtime work-outs at the gym instead of downing a couple of pints. For prisoners, the committee said there should be a series of "modular programmes" available, similar to those on offer outside jail, to teach them how to control their alcohol intake.

"The lack of opportunity to consume alcohol is a disadvantage for some reatment programmes," the report said, "Without access to alcohol the access of treatment and education cannot be accurately assessed."

While home leave provided some opportunity for monitoring a prister's progress, the report said that more could be done within in."
"We recommend that the Prison Security aginative area."

imaginative approaches to the testing of sensible drinking and abstinence



HEALTH

Baby joy turns to abuse for women.

Expecting a bahy should be a joyful experience, hut for many women it brings only fear and the threat of violence.

The claim was made by the Royal College of Ohstetricians and Gvnaecologists which said that between 2-20 per cent of pregnant women arriving at antenatal clinics have experienced severe physical, emotional or sexual violence from their partners.

Violence could be triggered for the first time during pregnancy, or pregnancy may increase the frequency of violent assaults, it was claimed. Certain gynaecological symptoms, such as pelvic pain, recurrent infection

and sexual difficulties, were "significantly associated" with abuse. The College was launching a programme yesterday to raise awareness

of the problem among obstetricians and gynaecologists. One aim was to help specialisis identify and cope with the consequences

of violence suffered by their patients.

CONSUMERISM 1

Trainers link to foot injuries

Wearers of expensive trainers may be injuring their feet hecause of manufacturers' misleading advertising, it was claimed yesterday.

Studies have shown that top-of-the-range shoes with hi-tech, shock-absorbing soles account for 123 per cent more foot injuries than the cheapest hrands. Research at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, indicates a link hetween the injuries and "deceptive" advertising messages. People become reckless after falling for safety claims which emphasise advanced new features and the latest technology, the findings suggest.

In fact, no athletic footwear, regardless of brand or price, has ever been shown to protect well against injuries, say the researchers.

TOURIST RATES

	Australia (dollars)	2.38	Italy (lira)	2,818
	Austria (schillings)	20.12	Japan (yen)	212.50
	Belgium (francs)	59.16	Malta (lira)	0.63
	Canada (\$)	2.29	Netherlands (guilders	3.23
	Cyprus (pounds)	0.84	Norway (kroner)	11.68
ĺ	Denmark (kroner)	10.97	Portugal (escudos)	290.74
	France (francs)	9.60	Spain (pesetas)	241.32
	Germany (marks)	2.88	Sweden (kroner)	12.65
	Greece (drachmei)	453.19	Switzerland (francs)	2.33
ĺ	Hong Kong (\$)	12.40	Turkey (lira)	315.823
l	Ireland (punts)	1.10	USA (\$)	1.62
				Source: Thomas Cook
			Rotes for in	dication purposes only

7.30 FOR 8

by Chris Priestley ZITS

by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

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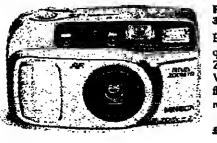




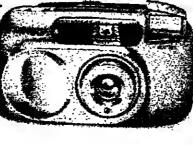


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IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT

Can £2,000 transform Polly? CITY+



My neighbour the porn star: LA Life

THE EYE

Sheryl Crow: Still smilling THE EYE



What the smart 10-14 year old mustn't be without this Christmas FASHION

'Ginger Whinger' buys Virgin Radio from Branson

Chris Evans, the maverick DJ, yesterday snapped up Richard Branson's Virgin Radio, thwarting a rival offer from Capital Radio. Cathy Newman says the media industry was stunned that Mr Evans had finally put his money where his mouth is.

News emerged last night that Virgin had written to Capital, notifying the radio group that it had accepted an £85m offer from Mr Evans' Ginger Productions.

The DJ, who hosts Virgin's breakfast show and is known as the "Ginger whinger", has secured backing from Apax Partners, a venture capital firm, hut is stumping up £2m less than Capital.

The deal will see the formation of the Ginger Media Group, ao umbrella company overseeing Virgin Radio and producing programmes such as Mr Evans' Channel 4 show, TFI Friday.

Richard Branson said last night:
"When we put this bold suggestion forward, the maverick io me was attracted
to it, In talking with our staff and the public, it soon became obvious that the vast
majority of people favoured this option
- and so, although the total consideratioo
was less than that offered by Capital Radio, I believed that Virgin Radio would
have a more sympathetic partner io
Chris."

News of Mr Evans' designs on Virgio first hecame public last month, after the DI appealed on air for listeners to back

his attempt to buy the station. Once Apax revealed it was backing the bid, Virgin said it was giving it serious consideration. Apax was a founding shareholder of Virgin Radio when it launched in 1993.

Mr Evans and Ginger's senior associates will own a 55 per cent share of the company. Apax will take a 20 per cent stake, and the remainder will he owned by Mr Branson and family interests.

Mr Evans said last night: "The Virgin brand has become one of the most powerful global symbols of energy, excitement and integrity. I am consumed by the challenges of developing Virgin Radio as a beacon for the British public's passion for music and appreciation of quality broadcasting."

Virgin's acceptance of Mr Evans' offer will stun Capital, though, which claimed last month it was "not concerned" by the turn of events.

Capital refused to comment yesterday. However, the news will come as a hitter blow to the company's new chief executive, David Mansfield, who had been trying to rebuild City confidence in the company. The market had responded negatively to the purchase of the restaurant chain, My Kinda Town, and the share price has dwindled from a high of 733p last year to 500p last night.

Capital has already come under serious pressure earlier this year wheo its purchase of Virgio was referred to the
Monopolies and Mergers Commission.
The MMC report, which had been due for
release early next year, now looks certain
to remaio unpublished. It is thought the
radio group will oow focus oo expanding
into the regions.



Ginger winner: Chris Evans' offer appealed to the 'maverick' in Richard Branson Photograph

Internet addicts may be damaging their health

"Information addiction" won't make you thin or fat; but it will eat into your free time, leaving you fretting on holiday and perhaps even surfing in bed. Are you at risk? Charles Arthur, Science Editor, investigates.

Alexander, aged 13, spent three weeks in the US on holiday this year. He waso't altogether happy – it was the longest time he had been cut off from the Ioternet in ages. "It was quite frustrating," he said yesterday. "I've got friends around the world and I couldn't get messages to or from them."

Couldn't he send postcards to say he was in America? "Postcards would have taken a week to arrive, whereas e-mail just takes one or two minutes," he said dismissively. "An e-mail says what time it is and where you are."

where you are.

Alexander, who lives m west
London, may be one of a new
hreed; the information addict.
A survey released yesterday
showed that the growth of the
Internet, and the coormous
amounts of data it can provide,
is creating a class of people who
get a high from finding the data
they want and feel itchy when
they can't get connected.

A survey of 1,000 businesspeople to the UK, US, Ireland, Germany, Singapore and Hong Kong found that 80 per cent feel

driven to gather as much information as possible to keep up with their business needs. and 43 per cent said they looked for work-related material wheo on holiday. Just over half said they "craved" information and the same proportion said finding what they wanted gave them a "high".

Mark Griffiths, a psychologist at Nottingham-Trent University who specialises in addictive hehaviour, said: "Cravings, changes of mood, and conflict with other activities suggests that information can be addictive, though it needs more research to be definite.

Mike Foster, of Reuters Business Information, which carried out the survey, offered three tips for spotting someone who is addicted to information.

"First, they come in to the office and the first thing they do is sit down at their desk and check their e-mail - they don't interact with other people there. Second are the cyber-versions of 'road warriors', with mobile phooes connected to earpieces, and everything plugged in to their laptop. Third, if they surf the Net in bed."

Is there a cure? Actually, we may not need one, suggests Mr Foster. "The good thiog is, childreo will be better placed than the current generatioo to deal with this, because they're growing up with this octwork. Pareots should just watch out for their speodiog excessive time online."

Youngest transplant patient brings joy after tragedy for parents

The world's youngest transplant patient made her first public appearance yesterday after receiving a new liver when she was five days old.

Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor, reports on a remarkable alliance of parental determination and surgical skill.

The parents of Baehhen Schuttke had already suffered a double tragedy when she was born last July. Their two sons both died soon after birth from a rare condition that resulted in liver failure.

Baehhen had the same condition and collapsed with liver failure 24 hours after she was born. She was flown to King's College Hospital in London where doctors said an immediate transplant was necessary to save her life.

By chance, the liver of a 10-year-old

child became available and surgeons led by Mohamed Rela arranged to conduct the delicate and complex operation three days later. Yesterday, Ita. 30, and Jurgen, 33, pre-

sented their sleeping daughter to the press and declared that she was a "completely normal five-month-old haby".

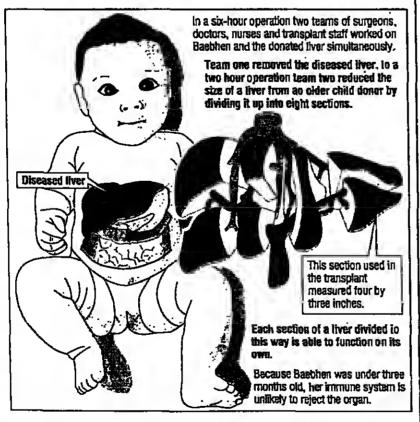
Accompanied by their five-year-old daughter. Aodhbha, they thanked their doctors - Mr Rela was the "surgeon of the century", Mrs Schuttke said - and appealed for more donors.

Mr Schuttke, who is originally from Westphalia, Germany, said: "The main reason we decided to go public was to thank the donors. Mr Rela has done an excellent job but without the organs you an't do anything.

"A tragedy in somebody's life may bring someone else happiness. It has made our Christmas."

Behind the celebratory tone, however, lies a harrowing story. When their first son died in Dublin, where the family lives, Ita, who is Irish, and Jurgen, were distraught – and perplexed by the absence of any clear diagnosis.

They searched medical libraries and the Internet for clues. They found a specialist in Pittsburgh, in the United States, who suggested the diagnosis neonatal haemochromatosis, an extremely rare condition caused by an excess of iron whose cause is unknown, and told them that King's College Hospital in London had the expertise that they needed.



When their second son was born, he was flown to King's and had experimental drug treatment but it failed. When Baebhen was born last summer the Schuttkes, who have another daughter, five-year-old Ava, knew that a transplant was their only option. Ita said: "We didn't think whether she was the youngest or the oldest [transplant patient]. Saving her life was our main concern."

The seven-hour operation involved transplanting a single lobe from the donor liver, one eighth of the liver's total size, but even this was too big to fit into the haby's tiny abdominal cavity. For two weeks the surgical wound was left open, covered by a dressing, until the liver had naturally shruok to fit.

Mr Rela said: "The liver is an amazing organ. It will shrink to fit or grow to fit whatever cavity it is placed in."

The liver is made up of eight segments and the first part of the operation, which has been pioneered at King's, involved reducing it to one segment, a process that took over two hours.

Once the liver segment had been prepared, a second surgical team trans-

planted it into the baby in a lengthy, delicate procedure in which the surgeons practised microsurgery under magnifiers to attach the tiny blood vessels.

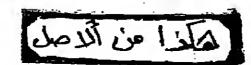
No signs of rejection have been seen and Baebhen is taking only minimal doses of immunosuppressant drugs because, at such a young age, before the immune system is fully functional, foreign organs are not recognised as alien. The liver will grow with the child, removing the need for further transplants as she gets older, and doctors expect to be able to withdraw the drugs altogether by the time she is five.

Surgeons at King's have performed 13 liver transplants on children below the age of three months and five below one month. The hospital is the largest liver transplant centre in Europe, carrying out more than 180 transplants a year, including 50 in children.

Mr Rela added: "This is the youngest child to get a liver transplant because she was lucky enough to get a donor. She would have died if she had not got a transplant within two weeks. She has done very well, and the liver is now adapting to ber body and is growing normally."

SIEMENS





The Moors murderer Myra Hindley launched a legal action yesterday against an order that she should remain in prison for the rest of her life. Her lawyers claim she has been singled out because of her notoriety. Michael Streeter, Legal Affairs Correspondent, was in court.

Myra Hindley was a victim of injustice because of the decisions by successive home secretaries that she should serve "whole life", effectively condemning her to die in jail, a High Court heard yesterday.

Mr Edward Fitzgerald QC, for Hindley said there was a suspicion that his client had been 'singled out" for tougher treatment by ministers because of the circumstances and publicity surrounding ber case.

Hindley, now 55, was sentenced to life in prison 31 years ago for the murders of Lesley Downey and Edward Evans, together with her co-defendant Ian Brady, Yesterday she sought to overturn the decision by the former Home Secretary Michael Howard and reiterated a life tariff, an increase on the by Jack Straw last month that 30 years she had expected. she should serve the life tariff.

Mr Fitzgerald told the High Court that Hindley and Brady were the only people whose tariff period of imprisonment – 30 and 40 years respectively - had been increased by the Home Office. He suggested that the policy of setting and then increasing such tariffs, which Hindley claims is unlawful, has been used solely to deal with her

He said that though the Home Secretary said last month that the life-tariff prisoners could be freed if they showed "exceptional progress" in jail. subsequent media interviews given by Mr Straw had shown that he was content that Hind- last three days continues.

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ley should serve the full period. Such comments created a 'expectation" among the public that Hindley would stay in prison until she died, an expectation from which it would

be hard for the Home Secretary

Mr Fitzgerald said that in increasing her tariff to life, first set in 1985, successive home secretaries had ignored the mitigation of her 1987 confessions in which she acknowledged her guilt and in which she acknowledged her involvement in two other killings. Nor had they considered "intimidation" against her and her family by her mentor" Brady.

At the same time ministers had not taken into account a Parole Board recommendation that Hindley - currently in Durham jail - should be sent to an open prison.

Mr Fitzgerald said she was the only "secondary party" in a murder case to have been given a whole-life tariff, and with Rose Wesi was only one of two women to receive it. Ministers had also failed to distinguish between the more serious actions of Brady and that of Hindley.

Hindley is challenging the legality of ruling by Mr Howard and now Mr Straw to put her on

She is also challenging the policy of imposing any such tariff for prisoners. Even under Mr Straw's promise to review cases where there was exceptional progress, she says this unlawfully fetters his discretion to release prisoners. •

Mr Fitzgerald said his client was not challenging her sentence or conviction and nor was she asking the High Court to release her immediately. She simply asked that her case be dealt with on its merits.

Mr Straw has already indicated he will review Hindley's individual circumstances at the end of her judicial review. The hearing, which is expected to



An anti-Hindley protester outside the High Court yesterday

Brady turns against partner in crime

The Moors murderer Ian Brady vesterday claimed he had given his co-defendant Myra Hindley "cover" to help her get acquitted from one of their crimes.

Brady, who is serving life for the murders and says he will never apply to be released, sent the letter to Home Secretary Jack Straw on the day that Hindley began a High Court action to overturn a decision to make a whole life" tariff prisoner.

In the letter, issued through news agency, he says that Hindley, 55, and he had been in love and that she had regarded the killings as "marriage ceremonies theoretically binding years I continued to ratify the pillars: educational studies,

with the spirituality of death and hecame predominant. We experimented with the concept of total possibility.

"... Before entering the witproviding a cover for Myra. This to adopt a distancing strategy box, admitting to minor crimes whilst denying major ... For 20

us ever closer. He adds: "... Ex- cover I had given her at the triistential philosophy melded al whilst, in contrast, she systematically began to fabricate upon it to my detriment.

Therefore, when I learnt from the Panorama programme this week that she was now ness box I instructed both her claiming I had threatened to kill counsel and my own to ask me her if she did not participate in specific questions designed to the moors murders. I considgive the fullest opportunity of ered that the lowest lie of all. The fact that she continued to managed to get her off on one write several lengthy letters a murder charge I also told her week to me for seven years after we were imprisoned conwhen she went into the witness tradicts this cynical allegation.

... As for the parole board. I advised her to build on three

powerful contacts and religion. She did ... In the ... Panorama programme, former Home Office minister A Widdecombe stated there are 23 prisoners in the UK who will never be released. Why has the public

heard so little of them? "In this and other special hospital run by prison warders there are also patients no one has heard of, who have been rotting behind bars for 40 and 50 years for relatively minor offences. That puts the present loud debate over Myra Hindley in proper perspective ..."

 Michael Streeter Legal Affairs Correspondent

Train firms under cosh as passenger gripes rise again

Complaints by rail travellers - pushing the figures to record levels, according to the passenger waichdog. About 4_500 complaints were received by the Central Rail User's Consultative Committee in the three months from July- a rise of 96 per cent on the same period last year.

"I am horrified that the level of passenger dissatisfaction should have grown to such an extent and so rapidly," said CRUCC national director Paul Hadley.

Information at stations and from national telephone inquiry bureaux topped the list of complaints, followed by reliability, overcrowding, ontrain cleanliness, suitability of service and punctuality.

Train companies have nearly doubled this summer fared badly - in part due to problems with the ailing rail infrastructure. In London, complaints reached an alltime high, with Connex South Central seeing the number of letters it receives rise by 158 The West of England also

suffered. The passenger watchdog received 1.240 lelters in the first 6 months of the year, compared with 1.397 in the preceding I2 months. Mr Hadley said the figures "must set the alarm bells ringing. It is evidence of just how wide the gulf is becoming between passengers' expectations and operators' performance."

Randeeb Ramesh, Transport

Council's homes challenge

John Prescott was last night facing a legal challenge over a decision to force West Sussex to accept the building of 12,800 more homes than planners think the county can hear. While the Environment Secretary is battling in Kyoto to save the planet more homes would have a from global warming he was accused of "concreting the countryside. "The 30,000 countryside" back home.

The Government has issued a directive to West Sussex requiring the council to increase the planned level of new housing in its structure to environmental pollution." plan from 37,900 to 50,700 by the 2011. An independent

panel which endorsed the council's lower figure said the character of West Sussex was "at a critical point".

Announcing the application to the High Court for a judicial review, the council chairman Ian Elliott said devastating effect on the people who would live in the extra homes ordered by Mr Prescott would put even more pressure on the road network and significantly add

> - Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

Missing teenager found

A man is being questioned on who looked mature for her the Essex schoolgirl Sally Claydon was found in Aberdeen. Police had heen since her disappearance on 16 November. Airports and ports had been put on alert amid fears that she may have

tried to Iravel to Spain.

suspicion of abduction after age, may have wanted to return to the Costa del Sol with a 47-year-old British man she met whilst helping in her hunting for the 13-year-old mother's bar in Fucogirola.

Sally and her mother had, returned from Spain on 3 November hut the teenager disappeared two weeks later with nothing but her passport It was thought that Sally, and summer clothes.

Karli: woman remanded

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remanded in custody for sev- an hour. en days yesterday accused of

the abduction of haby Karli Hawthorne. Denise Giddings, 33, from the Langdon Hills area of Basildon in Essex, appeared

before a packed magistrates'

court in the town for a hear-

A mother-of-three was ing which lasted just over half

Following a 45-minute adjournment, Nicola Moulds, chair of the magistrates' bench, returned to announce the court's decision.

Ms Giddings was handcuffed by guards as she left the court.

Ministers fear motorists' backlash against toll roads

Charging motorists to use the roads is seen by many as the answer to **Britain's looming** transport crisis. But ministers appear to be shying away from road tolls. Randeep Ramesh, Transport

Correspondent, explains

Ministers are keen in public to say the Government wishes to cool the public's passion for the motor car. But despite clogged streets and worsening pollution, in private they have dismissed road tolling. "It will take 10 years to get the infrastructure in place," said one. "It is not as simple as many people think. You run into problems such as just displacing traffic onto other roads. There is also the ques-

It is understood ministers will instead tax "non-residential" parking to curh congestion and raise cash by cracking down on company cars.

This has not stopped other European governments pressing ahead with congestion charging schemes. Road-pricing schemes have been operated for more than 5 years in Norway and motorists in the Nether-

lands face tolls by 2001. Officials have considered

two forms of congestion charging. The first is motorway tolling, which ministers point out would involve "large capital costs"

road improvements.

The other, more likely option is for local authorities to set up "urban tolls". Many councils - including Edinhurgh, Bristol and Aberdeen - have put forward innovative schemes suggesting congestion as a way of paying for public transport and

And councillors have been commodity - road space - that supported by business. Charges of £5 on the A1, A19, An6 and A167 were recently suggested by the North East Chamber of Commerce, Trade and Industry.

"If we do not get roadtolling or some other scheme then we will see traffic in the area grinding to a halt." said Michael Bird, the chamber's

lash from a public paying for a a year to pay for itself.

they took for granted as free. The Government will instead use the £400m Birmingham Northern Relief Road, which links the heavily congested M6 to the M42 as the litmus test for road pricing.

The 27-mile road will only be completed in 2002. No estimates for the level of charge have been made, but experts estimate the What ministers fear is back- road will need to rake in £40m

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Kyoto this week will open the way for a free market in trading in pollution rights between nations. Nicholas Schmn. Environment

Correspondent, explains an extraordinary idea.

You are a country which has signed up to a legal treaty strictly limiting the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions you can

you are heading to break that limit in the next few years.

Perhaps one of your nuclear power stations has broken down, so you need to hurn more greenhouse-gas producing coal to make up for the missing electricity. Or economic growth is expanding your use of fossil fuels faster than you expected.

So what do you do? You huy a load of extra permits to potlute on the open, international market at a few dollars per tonne of greenhouse gas. Then, when you do go over your limproduce each year. And you it, you are not hreaking in-

the permits to cover the excess. The cost of purchasing them from overseas is cheaper than cost of cutting your rising emis-

sions at home. The United States has insisted this kind of trading regime must feature in tile Kyoto climate treaty for developed countries. It now seems certain to get its way, despite other nations and green groups having serious doubts. Economic theory says that freemarket trading in permits guarartees to minimise the total costs of stabilising or reducing the global level of pollution.

to date has taken place within the US through the 1990s. It applied to the acid rain gas sulphur dioxide produced mainly by power stations, and it seems to ve worked fairly well.

say, the Kvoto treaty set a target for developed countries to cut annual greenhouse gas emissions to 95 per cent of their 1990) level by 2000 - a fairly likely final outcome. Each country emissions from the developed would be given permits sufficient to cover 95 per cent of the quan-

being able to cut emissions by more than 5 per cent easily and cheaply would reckon to have surplus permits for that year. So they would offer them for sale, either on the open market or in Here is how it could work if, private sale agreements with other governments, in 2010 or Prime Minister, John Prescott, beforehand. Nations which found it too expensive or difficult to meet the target would want to buy them. But overall,

world would be cut by 5 per cent. tity of pollution it produced in The permits would, in fact, 1990, to be used in the year 2010. cover several years of emissions

be banked up for the future. Not only would there be a market in permits, but a futures or options market too - in which the players would be gambling on the future price of permits. In Kyoto this week, the Deputy suggested the City of London get involved. But the EU and the green lobby worry about po-

tential loopholes. Russia and the eastern bloc have had enormous reductions It gets more complicated. in greenhouse gas emissions since 1990, thanks to economic decline. So if permits were al-

would give them a hig surplus. The natural client to sell them to would be the US, the world's higgest climate polluter, allowing American greenhouse gas emissions to keep rising.

Furthermore, the trading regime would collapse if there was not strict monitoring and enforcement. Nations which polluted above their quota without having purchased the necessary permits ought to be severely penalised. But a watertight regime has not been ne-

gotiated in Kyoto. The EU's view is that trad-

ing permits should only play a small part in lowering greenhouse gas emissions; what couptries do inside their own borders must deliver the bulk.

THE INDEPENDENT TUESDAY " DECEMBER 1997

Dr Daniel Dudak, of the US Environmental Defence Fund, is a leading advocate of pollution trading and guesses the price will settle down at around £2 for each tonne of carbon dioxide traded. The permits are, in effect, a sovereign promise by a Government to perform - they're only as good as that promise. I have a lot of faith in the entrepreneurship that will come with trading."

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Life's a gas when Carbonosaurus meets the tree people

tional Conference Hall, past the Gas Mask Please Tree and next to the Melting Ice Penguins, is a blood-curdling poster. Handwritten by South Korean environmentalists in brightly coloured felt-tips, it horrid consequences if the COP3 environment conference breaks up tomorrow without an agreement on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Delegates," it warns, "We will make you Rowing Boats Slaves in the Water World If you fail to Stop Grobal [sic]

Warming . Whatever its consequences for the plant and animal kingdom, the threat of global disaster has had a marvellous effect on the world of non-govthe carth has got hotter and the mighty United States. Each to me sculpture of a over the weekend, carving a

Outside the Kyoto Interna- ice caps smaller, green NGOs have become more numerous and energetic, and for the last nine days in Kyoto, they have been on display all their gor-

geous biodiversity. The 160 governments participating in the Kyoto conferleaves little doubt about the ence have brought 1,500 official delegates between them, but they are far outnumbered by some 3,500 NGO members. Alphabetically, these range from Action for Solidarity, Equality, Environment and Development (A-Seed) to the Wuppertal Institute. Numerically they range from the Solar Electric Light Fund (sole delegate: Ms Laura H. Kosloff) to the Kiko Forum, a giant coalition of Japanese groups, whose 385 delegates easily outnumber ernmental organisations. As the 98 officials from even the

SKETCH BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

green group has its own goals. membership and tacrics, hut deep down all share the sentiment expressed in the Korean dster: a fervent willingness the slave galley any government considered insufficiently green. GOs. like Greenpeace. Friends of the Earth and the WWF are slick lobbying outfit with good contacts in the delegations and impressively deep pockets. Greenpeace's attraction is the "Car-

Tyrannosaurus rex, fashioned out of car exhausts, oil cans and petrol pumps as a "monument to stale technology". The ships and trucks which transport it to shackle to the rollocks of around the world must generate a fair quantity of curbon dioxide themselves - but Strategies vary. The big the creature, adorned with the name of loathed multinationals like Ford and Shell, provides the conference's

wackiest sideshow. All week, the smaller groups have staged a variety of stunts, demos and gimmicks. bohosaurus", a 15ft-high, 3- The Koreans were highly active

pair of penguins out of amuretic ice, and adoming the shrubbery around the conference hall with multi-lingual speech bubbles t*Gas mask please." beseeches one bush: "Your topphole is our mose," proclaims another). Greenpeace has been serving green coffee. brewed from solar power heated water, and another group set itself the exhausting task of laying on music from a tape play-

or powered by bievele. There is a Women's Caucus and a group of ecumenical eleries who blow a traditional Jewish horn to summon the faithful to prayers for the environment. There is a group called the G-21, consisting of will be agreed that will just let 21 children from 21 countries. all the politicians go back to aged one to 21, who yesterday smuggled themselves past security to petition CO2 cuts make sure that they don't get

The common language is English, but it is heing stretched to its limits; an event over the weekend, apparently a lecture by a group of jazzplaying, mountain-climbing entomologists, was described in the NGO programme as 'Akira Sakata Trio Live and Talk Himalayan Glacier. Take a Look at the Water Flea".

"Any agreement is better than no agreement, but we're in a difficult position," says Jonathan Wootliff of Greenpeace International, "We'd like to say that even a 5 per cent cut is good news. But we can easily be misrepresented, and the danger is that something sleep again.

"People like us have got to from a recolcitrant US senator. away with it.

Prescott paints a greener and more frugal land

John Prescott told the climate conference that Britain aimed to cut its emissions of globalwarming carbon dioxide by a fifth by 2010. In the second of a two-part series, Nicholas Schoon looks at what this would mean for our homes, transport, energy industries and towns.

The higgest changes will be in our homes and ways of travel. Almost all housing will need surgery if the 20-per-ceot cut is to be made. Not only double glazing hut special low-cmissivity glass will have to be installed. Insulating foam will be that will have to more than doupumped between the internal ble. Regulation of the gas and and external walls of the 9 mil- electricity industries also has to lion homes which have cavity ex- be reformed: the requirement ternal walls - today this is for less emphasis on driving insulation is a rarity. Houses down prices and owore on inwith central heating will have to centivising husinesses and have more efficient, and ex- homes to install energy-saving pensive, gas-condensing boil- equipment. Better terms are ers and electronic controls.

be set for electrical appliances. with the biggest carbon-dioxide savings coming from replacing refrigerators and freezers with more frugal models. The Govemment's Energy Saving Trust grants or by a 2-per-cent levy on household fuel hills.

Road traffic accounts for 22 per cent of UK carbon dioxide emissions and is rising. The White Paper on an integrated transport policy, due soon, will cut. As well as raising petrol and be a package of measures including such things as road

space for private cars, taxes on office-car parking and final elimination of the company-car perk. Fuel-thrifty cars will need cheaper tax discs than gas guzzlers and there needs to be an incentive for scrapping old. highly polluting cars. Together. such measures would encourage the manufacturers to develop and market much more fuelefficient cars, and people to walk or use hicycles for shorter journeys. The electricity and gas in-

dustries industries will have to change ton, with the Government continuing to encourage non-polluting sources such as wind power. Already these renewable sources provide electricity equivalent to one big coal-fired power station, but needed for mini-electricity gen-Tougher standards will also erators who make cleaner. greener power and sell some of it into the grid.

In planning, there will have to he more restrictions on sprawling out-of-town and edge-of-town development of has drawn up a programme for homes, offices, shops, leisure fahouseholds which would go a cilities and factories: these are fifth of the way towards making bard to serve by public transport the 20-per-cent cut. An extra and encourage longer car jour-£70m a year would have to be news. If the Government moves pumped in, as Government ahead with the programme needed to make the 31-per-cent cut it will face opposition and controversy.

But there will be winners as well as losers; it could help Britain gain new export markets for energy-saving technologies show how serious ministers are and create more jobs than it deabout making the 20-per-cent stroys. It will take two Parliaments to implement the diesel duties, there will need to programme, with an immediate start. The greatest challenge it faces is to keep the public's trust tolling or restrictions on road and support for the duration.

SOURCES OF UK CARBON DIOXIDE

(In 1995, Britain's CO2 emissions totalled 543m tonnes.)

Power stations - 30 per cent. Home heating - 15 per cent. Commercial and public services - 6 per cent. Oil refineries, iron and steel - 9 per cent Other industry – IS per cent. Road transport - 22 per cent... Others (eg aircraft, railways, shipping) - 3 per cent.

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Social partnership trial ends in failure

Ministers are facing considerable difficulties in their attempts to involve unions and employers in policymaking: Barrie Clement, Labour Editor, looks at disagreements over a law on union recognition and the flagship New Deal programme for the unemployed.

The Government's first experiment in Continental-style "sqcial parinership" between capital and labour ended in failure yesterday on the issue of union recognition.

Union leaders and the Confederation of British Industry conspicuously failed to reach a

ing employment representation at work might be drawn up.

Deal for the unemployed which came under fire from workers' leaders for introducing benefit penalties for those who refused to participate in programmes.

On union recognition, the TUC and CBI struck deals on points of little contention, but there was no agreement on the most critical elements.

John Cridland, of the CBI, urged the Prime Minister to think again over the intended legislation, declaring that legally-backed recognition would

John Monks, the TUC's general secretary, described as 'ridiculous" some of the positions taken up by employers'

In particular the two sides failed to agree on what constituted a "majority" when voters were deciding on recognition. Labour's election manifesto stated that unions should be recognised where a majority of workers voted for it.

The TUC contends that it

consensus on how a law enforc- of all those eligible to vote. While the CBI believes that Ministers' relationship with the case, Mr Monks pointed out unions also came under strain . that few governments enjoyed over the Government's New such a degree of endorsement from the electorate.

"If 60 per cent vote for union recognition in an 80 per cent turnout, that should figure recognition. If it failed to do so. it would lead to desperately bad industrial relations and a recipe for conflict," he said.

And in a Continental-style attempt at social partnership the TUC and CBI were to develop a joint paper on the issue, but they have failed to do so. Mr Monks and Mr Turner will today present their submissions to Margaret Beckett, President of the Board

Another point at issue is employers' insistence that there should be 30 per cent support from the relevant employees before a ballot on recognition was tripgered. Mr Monks said, howbegged the question of what was the "relevant bargaining unit".

Other conflicts emerged over business should not be involved: that pay, hours and holidays should be a majority of those should be subject to negotiation, voting, while Adair Turner, di- but not training and there rector-general of the CBL ar- should be a ban on industrial acgues that it should be a majority tion in support of recognition.

Former MP faces. Hague crackdown

A senior former Tory MP, Sir dissent are snuffed out of pol-John Gorst, is facing expulsion from his party today in a crackdown on local party rebellion by William Hague.

A Conservative Party hearing is expected to recommend the dissolution of Sir John's Hendon association, effective-

Tory officials are insisting the move follows alleged irregularities. But Sir John said last night it was a move to punish the party for supporting him in voting against the past government over the closure of a

"This is a test case. It is about how the Tory Party is government and whether the grass roots has the right to speak up for the grass on which they live,"

"This is a cynical operation using a handful of malcontents to ensure that those who voiced

itics. If party headquarters succeeds, you can say goodbye to independent Conservative MPs and local parties." On 1 May, Sir John lost his seat to Labour after 25 years.

The chairman of the association is George Ward, the head of the Grunwick processing firm, which was involved in a lengthy trade union battle in the firmed he had recruited to the some of whom lived many miles

But Mr Ward denied any impropriety in recruiting from his pays Sir John a retainer, accused Mr Hague's leadership of producing a "new climate of

Chief Political Correspondent

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7/POLITICS

failure Blair puts parents in firing line over school attendance Stockwell Park Se School, standing we Tony Blair at the Section of Stockwell Park S

priorities" as the Government launched its Social Exclusion Unit yesterday. The Prime Minister promised a return to "one nation values" but, as Glendo Cooper and Colin Brown report, Tories also accused him of "wealth distribution on the sly".

Parents could be fined up to £1,000 if they fail to make sure that their children are attending school, the Government warned yesterday as its Social Exclusion Unit was launched by the Prime Minister.

At the launch at Stockwell Park School, in Lambeth, south Loodon, Tony Blair described the unit as one of the "most important new initiatives of this government", which he hoped would achieve "Britain rebuilt as one nation".

"Social exclusion is about income, but it is about more," he said "It is ahout prospects and networks and life chances. It's a very modern problem and one that is more harmful to the individual, more damaging to self esteem, more corrosive for society as a whole, more likely to be passed down from generation to geoeration than mater-

'top priority" for the unit as Blair government is not making Estelle Morris, the schools minany difference to ordinary lives ister, said yesterday that eduin Britain. But Mr Blair's speech cation welfare officers "should was immediately attacked by not be afraid to prosecute [parsenior Tories as part of an agen-

ents] wherever ... appropriate" Maximum multiple prosecutions could mean fines as high as £1,000 for persistent offenders. "Persuasion works with some families but not all," she said.

David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education, also unveiled £200m plans for afterschool homework clubs, to help children unable to study at

Mr Blair gave the clearest signal so far that his government is seeking to redistribute wealth through the unit. Downing Mr Blair said that truancy Street said the speech was aimed and school exclusions were the at "nailing the myth" that the

da to achieve wealth redistribution "on the sly".

"This isn't just about compassion," said Mr Blair. "It's also about self-interest. If we can lows a series of initiatives which

shift resources to preventing will redistribute resources from [problems], there will be dividend for everyone."

the rich to the poor. These in-The launch of the unit folhealth action zones, where money will be targeted at deprived and a review of the welfare state.

areas; the introduction of Individual Savings Accounts with clude the establishment of cuts in tax relief for owners of PEPs worth more than £50,000;

Nehary Green, 16, from Stockwell Park Secondary School, standing with Tony Blair at the opening of the Social Exclusion Unit in Lambeth, south London, yesterday Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

The cuts in tax relief on PEPs led to criticism that the Government was attacking the middle classes. The criticism was fuelled yesterday with a report that the middle classes will lose out from a review of spending which is considering taxing child benefit and means-testing pre-

scriptions and state pensions. Appearing to refer to the growing row over benefit cuts to lone parents, Mr Blair said yesterday: "We are accused of breaking promises we never made ... So let me spell it out again. We can't do it all at once. It will take time."

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Exclusion: What the

I'd rather have worked in the classroom.

"I was used as an example.

Rashad Ahmed, 18, is study- and see how they progressed, out. It's a shame that didn't happen sooner."

> Jonathan Lyle, 16, who was excluded six or seven times while he was at secondary school, agrees that teachers need to develop a different relationship with their pupils if exclusions are going to be cut. He now works as an accounts assistant at Barclays Bank in central London.

"I started getting excluded in the first year at secondary school for something like fighting. It degenerated from there because I got a bad name for myself. Although I consistently achieved good results, teachers took every opportunity to knock me down.

Being excluded didn't change my behaviour at all, it just turned me off education. Why do you think I left school at 16 to work?"

Names have been changed. · Report by Children's Express, a programme of learning through journalism for children aged 8 to 18.

students think

ing for a BTEC in computing help them get along. I've since at Havering College in Horn- met the boy I hit and we just church. Essex, while working started talking, we sorted it part-time to a shop in Canary Wharf. He worries that an earlier exclusion "for smacking this geezer in the mouth" may jeopardise his chances of finishing the course.

"He was calling me names and punching me. He was getting on my nerves, so I hit him. I would have been prepared to sit down with him and work it out, but both of us were excluded for fighting - he wasn't allowed hack. I just sat at home and did my assignments. I got more done that way, but it's boring at home.

My current course leader thinks I'm trouble. I think he wants to kick me out. I'm not normally a bad boy. My classmates think I'm a trouble--maker. I tried harder to be good when I got back, but you can't help being yourself. What I did was stupid, but all this is unfair. If I was a teacher. I'd counsel pupils one on one

Ahern and Trimble mend bridges

The Dublin government and the discussion which was reasonably Ulster Unionists vesterday appeared to repair recent damage inflicted on their relationship with a cordial meeting at the multi-party talks at Stormont.

The Taoiseach, Bertic Ahern, also broke new ground during his visit to Belfast by hecoming the first serving Irish Prime Minister to enter Belfast City Hall, once regarded by Catholics as a hastion of Unionist domination.

But the main focus of attention was the encounter between Mr Abern and Mr Trimble at Stormont. The two politicians had a successful meeting several weeks ago, following which both sides indicated they believed they could do business together.

The developing relationship took a blow last week, however. when Unionists took strong exception to comments from Mr Ahem's recently-appointed foreign minister. David Andrews. who raised their hackles by saying that a proposed new Cross-border body would have powers so wide that it would be

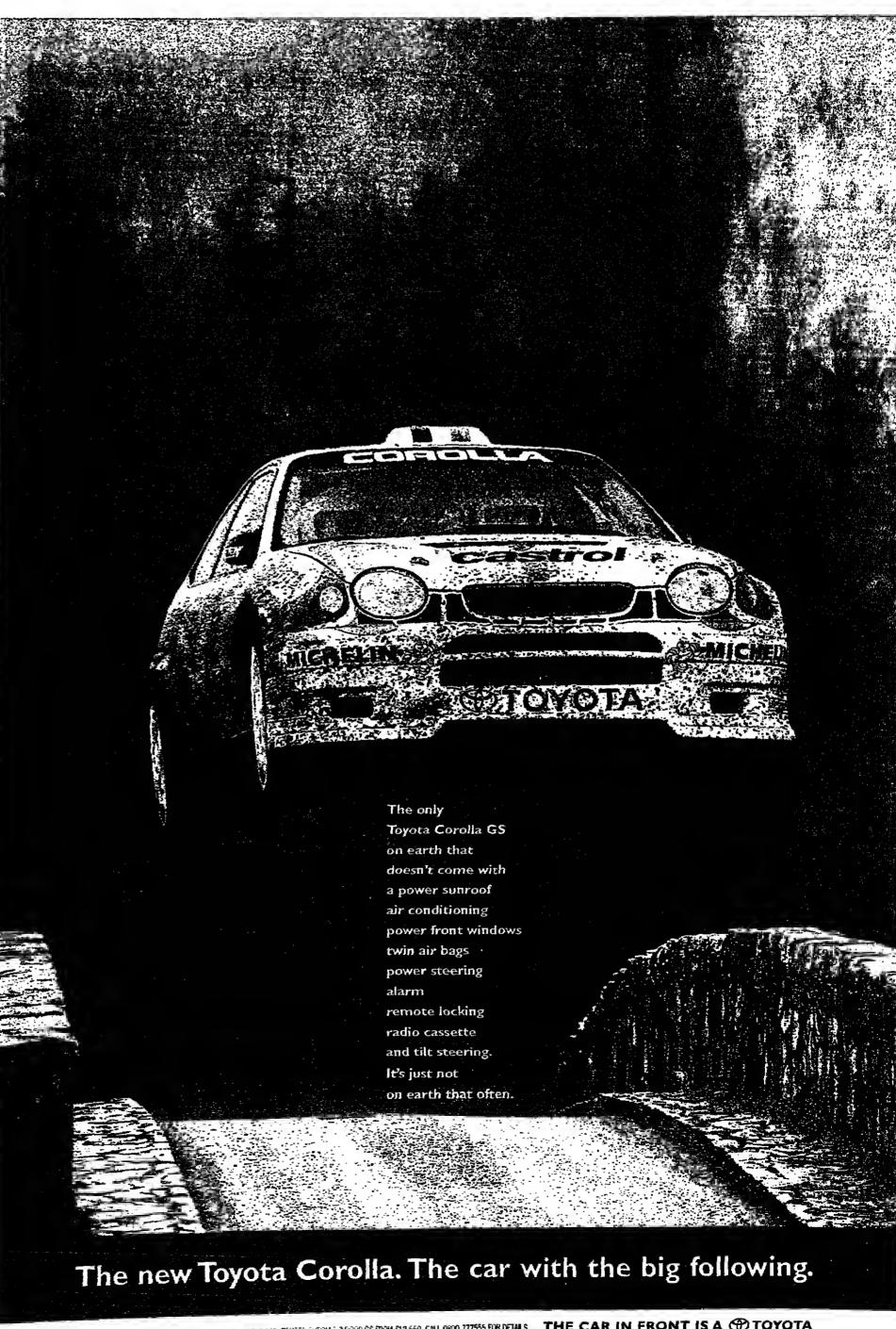
"not anlike a government". Air Thimble said: "We had a

friendly but also fairly forthright. I think we agree that we put last week and the rather unfortunate remarks behind us." Mr Ahern commented: "People are clearly focusing now and getting in detail. Every single party has an air of confidence that we are moving in the right direction.

In one potentially ominous development, however, the sister of IRA hunger striker Bobby Sands has gone public with a challenge to Sinn Fein's involvement in the peace process. Bernadette Sands McKevitt told RTE: "What is now on offer is more or less a modernised version of partition. So therefore we feel it is not actually a solution. I would be fearful for luture generations. We want to raise the awareness of the public to the situation. At the moment it is early days.

She has helped establish the -32 County Sovereignty Committee" in the hope of attracting more dissidents from Sina Fein. In her radio interview she strongly denied reports that she had been a senior member

David McKittrick



WITE SHOWN TOWNS COMMINISTED FROM CAR RESIDENCE TWYOTH COROLLA SLOOK OS FROM \$12,660, CALL ORDO 177555 FOR DETAILS. THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA

A senior Labour figure yesterday urged the Government to be more radical in its plans for raising standards in schools. Judith Judd, Education Editor, listened to the views expressed at a Fabian Society seminar.

are being sent to formal school too young, the seminar heard.

The senior Labour figure three Rs did not start until chilsaid: "We have too many four- dren were six or seven. year-olds in schools and there is a growing body of evidence a structured curriculum but it that we have got it badly wrong. did not include reading, writing Is there a link between poor lit- or arithmetic. They were taught eracy and forcing kids to start skills such as speaking, paying school too young?"

gary. Switzerland and Flem- the figure, who cannot be

Children are failing to learn to isb-speaking Belgium which read and add up because they were more successful in teaching literacy and numeracy than Britain, formal teaching of the

Before six or seven they had attention, listening, using their In countries such as Hun- memory and motor skills, said

governing the seminar.

tn Switzerland, parents can choose not to send their children to school at six and 15 per cent wait until they are seven.

By next September, the Government has prumised, every four-year-old will have a nursery, playgroup or school place. vices for the under-fives. Local authorities are drawing up plans to achieve this, but first signs are that most four-year-

ance consultation on all early years provision would take

place in the New Year. Ministers are piloting early years centres of excellence which will bring together ser-

One expert at the seminar said that other countries such as New Zealand which began olds will continue to be taught reading early tended to have the vate schools, the senior Labour erament on charitable status.

partment for Education said wide gap between children at yesterday that a quality assur- the top and bottom and poor tiatives, urged ministers to use performance in literacy and numeracy.

Some of the worst offenders were independent prep schools. "They try to get on with these things far too early. Lots of children are damaged and have to be catered for in the state

During a discussion on pri-

the threat of the removal of charitable status as a stick with which to beat private schools.

Two weeks ago, ministers announced a new partnership with independent schools and promised not to support the removal of charitable status.

The figure said: "I would go much tougher than the Gov-

named because of the rules in reception classes. The De- same difficulties as Britain: a figure, who supports most of the Charitable stntus goes back to charitable purpose. Now that we have universal state education we have to question whether it

letty take

remains relevant." Ministers have emphasised that private schools will not be forced to form partnerships with state schools though they hope some private schools will help prepare some state school pupils for Oxbridge and in mi-

Missing girls safe and well

Six schoolgirls lost overnight in atrocious conditions on Dattmoor sang songs as they huddled together for warmth in a three-person tent while rescuers were looking for them, it emerged yesterday.

They hedded down for the night in the wilderness north of Princetown, hours after they got lost in mist and driving rain.

They walked off the moor yesterday near Posthridge their original destination on a 12-mile hike - as a search by two helicopters and 120 members of the Dartmoor Rescue Group, some with dogs, resumed.

The youngsters, all 14- and 15-year-old pupils at Torpoint schoot, south-east Cornwall, were on a school hike aimed at developing map-reading and orienteering skills.

They were named by the school today as Dehhie Curran, Caroline Baker, Emma Matthews, Becky Goodman, Jade Bonitto, and team leader Charlotte Clare.

Caroline Barker said the weather was "really bad" as they set off for the ebeckpoint on Conies Down Tor. "We seemed to be walking for ever and ever

and just missed it." When a pre-arranged escape route did not work, they pitched camp. "All six of us were in a three man tent," said Caroline, "It was pouring with rain, and we started singing songs to keen us warm.'



Going home: Four of the six girls returning home yesterday. (I-r) Caroline Barker, Becky Goodman, Charlotte Clare and Debbie Curran Photograph: PA

Plan to clear waste from nuclear reactor shaft

centrifuges, stainless steel tubes, canned radioactive strontium, lead bricks, empty boxes are all in the Dounreay Intermediate Level Waste shaft - along with amounts of highly radioactive materials. The experts' advice is get it out. Chorles Arthur, Science Editor, reports.

The UK Atomic Energy Authority [UKAEA] is waiting for the Department of Trade and industry to approve an ambitious plan which would end growing fears of a second explosion in the Dounreay fast breeder reactor's disposal shaft.

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Among the most popular suggestions is one that the water-filled shaft, 65.5m (215ft)

Old laboratory coats and deep, should be frozen, and the contents - reportedly including enriched uranium and plutonium - lifted and removed.

> This suggestion, from an international consortium led by the nuclear engineering company Dames & Moore, is the most radical, yet logical, on the table. It would mean that the relative positions of waste in the shaft would change minimally. That would reduce the risk of an explosion that could otherwise scatter radioactive material over a huge area of the Scottish coast.

sealing the shaft, would be cheaper in the short term. But in the long term it carries the severe risk of leaking radioactive material into the water table and the sea, as water permeates into the shaft.

Either option will take up to 20 years and cost several hundred million pounds, said a

spokesman for the UKAEA vesterday. He declined to say whether the UKAEA had suggested removal or sealing, but independent experts agree that removal is far more sensible than leaving the waste there. A study in 1994 by AEA Tech-

sultancy, concluded that "doing nothing is not an option". The material crammed into the shaft has already exploded once - on 10 May 1977. The explosion had such force that a concrete plug 24 metres from the bottom was blown up the The simple alternative, of shaft, where it broke through the concrete cover, showering the adjacent beach and area

> with radioactivity. Removing the waste, which consists of a haphazard collection of contaminated items and radioactive sources dumped since the shaft was dug in 1955, would be financially more expensive, but far safer in the long term.

nology, an independent con-

Seeds of childhood leukaemia may be sown before birth

The origins of childhood feukaemia may lie in the womb. Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor, examines research suggesting that substances, such as alcohol, to which the foetus is exposed may be a cause of the commonest childhood cancer.

Examination of blood samples taken from children suffering from leukaemia which were compared with blood taken at birth have revealed that the same cancer cells were present

when the children were horn. The discovery, by scientists from the Institute of Cancer Research in London, confirms what has long been suspected: that childhood leukaemia starts

Professor Mel Greaves and his colleagues, whose findings are published in the US journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, say they apply to only one type of acute lymphohlastic leukaemia, associated with an abnormal gene. which accounts for one in 20 cases of childhood cancer, However, they say the technique they have developed can be used to trace the origin of other child-

hood leukaemias. Professor Greaves said: "It made sense to start with a leukaemia with a convenient molecular marker. It confirms what we suspected. The hints are there that in general there may he a foetal start (for all childhood leukaemias].

Most cases of childhood tcukaemia develop between the ages of two and six, but infant leukaemia hegins between six these cases it appears that what

to cause the disease.

In older children the rescarchers believe there is an exposure in the womb which makes the child vulnerable but which is not sufficient on its own to start the disease. Later, a "second hit" such as an infection triggers the disease. "It is like a bomh waiting to go off," Professor Greaves said.

A large US epidemiological study has linked drinking in pregnancy with infant leukaemia. But other substances also have a similar effect, including berzene, a constituent of petrol, antibiotics and other medicines

"There is a list of potential villains," Professor Greaves said. "A lot of women are exposed to them and the disease is rare. That is the way cancer is - it strikes at random. I don't want to worry women who months and one year of age. In have had a couple of drinks in pregnancy."

Scots farmers end protests as beef talks are agreed

Scottish farmers yesterday agreed to end their ports protests after a setting talks with Secretary of State for Scotland, Donald Dewar, on 16 December.

But the blockades were continuing at other ports with the higgest yet organised at the port of Liverpool last night. Farmers leaders urged protesters to "keep up the pressure" on the Government as they launched a major campaign

to win public sympathy for their cause. Adverts placed by the National Farmers Union are due to appear in national press today urging shoppers to buy British and to sign a petition calling on the Government to come up with a package of measures to alleviate the crisis

The NFU president Sir David Naisb said in London yesterday that the Government could end the problems "overnight" by agreeing to apply for £980m of aid to compensate farmers for the strong pound.

Damages for hospital fall

A mental patient who tried to kill berself by jumping from the eighth floor of a hospital is to receive £145,000 compensation for the crippling injuries she suffered. Lawyers for Maxine Griggs, 38, of Letchworth, Hertfordshire, accused North Hertfordshire NHS Trust of negligence in allegedly failing to keep her under proper supervision.

Christopher Gardner QC, for Mrs Griggs, told Mr Justice Eady, a High Court judge, that she heard voices urging her to kill others or harm herself. In April 1992, while an involuntary patient at Lister Hospital, Stevenage, she was allowed out of her ward under a "good-behaviour contract" to buy a newspaper. Instead, she jumped from the eighth floor; her injuries included spinal, ankle and shoulder fractures.

Phone cut-offs to be halted

Customers who do not pay phone bills will be restricted to incoming calls only instead being cut off, the industry watchdog said. Oftel said it hoped the deal, agreed with the telephone companies, would mean disconnection for debt became a thing of the past. Under the deal, customers who owe money will be given the option of having all calls out blocked except those to the emergency services and the operator while they pay off their dehts.

DAILY POEM

An Academic

By Norman MacCaig

You sit at your fat desk, starching wour brains; you're the tone-deaf man in the orchestra, you're the frog who wouldn't a-wooing go.

What a job is this, to measure lightning with a footrule, the heart's turbulence with a pair of callipers. And what a magician, who can dismantle Juliet, Ahab, Agamemnon into a do-it-yourself kit of semantic pestures.

Tidiness is decent. Trains have 10 reach their destinations. But yours, that should be clattering and singing through villages and landscapes, never gets out of the shunting yards.

I'm a simple man - I believe you were born, I believe it ugainst all the evidence. would like to give you a present of weather, a transfusion of pain.

This week's poems celebrate the work of the Edinhurgh poet Norman MacCaig, who was born in in the city in 1910 and died there in 1996. They come from his Selected Poems, edited by Douglas Dunn and recently published by Chatto & Windus

December

for the jumper.."

December

like it honest.



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on your calls every day of the week So, for a Merry Christmas and a very prosperous New Year, see how much you could save with Cable & Wireless. FreeCall 0500 of the many ways we can save you money - 500 366 quoting RINDCL



9/CULTURE

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Getty takes high art to Hollywood

Los Angeles opens this week. It is a vast and expensive monument to culture in a city better known for flashy impermanence. Tim Comwell says some people prefer tinseltown to

The new Getty Centre in

The Getty museum that most visitors to Los Angeles know is a reproduction Roman villa perched above the Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu. It is closed for a major overhaul. Instead, all eyes are on the new Getty Centre, which opens its doors to the public this week. Occupying a high hill, bearing over the 405 freeway in West Los Angeles, its off-white ramparts have been compared by those below to a city state or crusader castle guarding a pass through the Santa Monica mountains.

The architectural merits of the new Getty will be put through the wringer by the international press this week, more traditional city." when a squad of 600 reporters is guided through a three-day preview. The interlocking museum, research, library and adthe 110-acre hilltop in a gargantuan arts complex. It was designed and built over 14 years by the New York architect Richard Meier, at a cost of about \$1bn (£625m).

It is a fitting home for the Getty Trust, established with a sizable chunk of the Getty fortune, and now worth \$4.3bn. Meier, often inspired by the Swiss architect Le Corbusier, is winning gushing praise for the glass rotunda, and the use of natural light in the galleries through computerised louvres that regulate the California sunshine. is faced by 250,000 blocks of travertine marble,

mounted over concrete. The collection, focused on 19th-century European art, includes crowd-pleasers like Van Gogh's Irises, bought for a reported \$35m, Cézannes and Goyas, and Christ's Entry into

Brussels in 1889, by Ensor. The Getty, it is said, marks the coming of a late modern monumentalism in a city better known as a place of youth and constant change, where things are torn down as quickly as they are built up. For Los Angeles, a city haunted by its own provincialism and superficiality, it lays a claim to international stature. For those who love the place for the reasons others hate it - that it is faddy, flimsy, and a cultural grab bag - this passing seems

It is safe to say that feelings about the Getty, so far, are decidedly mixed - swinging between "Getty bashing, and Getty deification", observed one local architect. Some Angelenos wonder what such a lofty enterprise, devoted mostly to the art of dead white European males, means to a polyglot city which is increasingly Asian and Hispanic. The Getty has responded with a city-wide advertising for "Your Getty" - "imagine, discover, explore, enjoy". The museum has revived a perennial debate about the place of high culture in the home of Baywatch.

"The cliche of Los Angeles is a city of decay, a city where, as Raymond Chandler put it, the front door is the only part of a house you can't kick through with a boot," wrote Nicholas Ouroussoff, architectural critic of the Los Angeles Times.

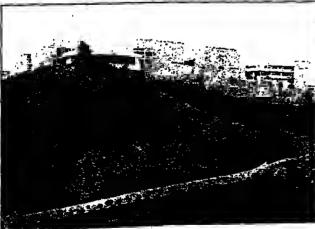
"The Getty is a finely honed alternative. It seeks to civilise the city's sprawl, to boist a hanner to the Old World values of high art. In doing so, it marks a shift toward making Los Angeles a

Carolyn See, whose books are

set in and about Los Angeles, suggests the Getty will give "a little dignity" to a young city, born ministration buildings cover in the 1880s on the back of a onedollar rail fare from the east. Other monuments are soon to follow. The long-delayed Disney Hall, with a dauntingly lavish design by Frank Gehry, creator of the Guggenheim Bilbao, has finally got the funding it needs. The Los Angeles Catholic church has commissioned a new cathedral from the Spanish architect Jose Rafael Moneo.

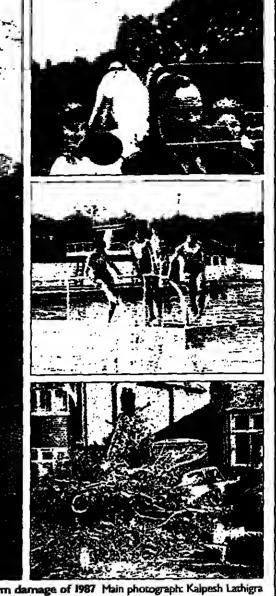
Meier's design suffered from the demands of local residents. who insisted on height restrictions, and made him exchange his trade mark white construction for a light tan. But it is his themes that has brought some of the toughest criticism, particularly from New York, which has historically looked down on California's artistic pretensions.

The Getty has been compared to a corporate headquarters, a medical centre, and "stack of Deco refrigerator doors", suggesting for many that it "simply does not work" as a whole. "It is hard for people in the North-east, particularly in New York, to accept that LA can do anything that's sophisticated in culture and the arts," said Barry Munitz, the California State University chancellor who will take over as president of the Getty Trust in January. "It's tinseltown, the movie business, a bunch of Philistines whose brains have been fried by the sun."



Rooms with views: The Getty Centre Photograph: Rex Features





Smile! David Piggott filming in Chingford, Essex, and (right, from top) Chingford Day 1958, Larkswood Pool in 1960 and the storm damage of 1987 Main photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra

Captured on film: the changing times of an English town

An Essex man has filmed the passing of history on the streets of his home town. Paul McConn, Media Correspondent, watches

the minutiae of 40 years' living slip past. The English eccentric is alive

and well and living in Chingford. Better known for Lord Tebbit and Birds of a Feather, home to one David Piggott, a "They offered me a job in the and, most obviously, the de- see an event like that again." pointing soberly at the small

man who has amassed a accounts department, but I cline of any sense of commuunique archive of 40 years of didn't want to spend my life in self-made newsrecls of his accounts." home town.

No world event has been too small that Mr Piggott has the streets of Chingford looknot captured its effect on Chingford for posterity. They include the great storm of 1987, the Queen's Silver Juhilee and the time in 1958 when a starlet called Sabrina came

to open Tyre Specialists Ltd. Mr Piggott, a self-confessed news addict. started making super-8 films of his town when

So since then, in his spare

time, he has dutifully stalked ing for news. He edits his films, collects jaunty soundtrack music, creates titles and narrates a commentary. The result is an archive of films that captures the changing face of Britain over 40 years. Every 12 months he shows his year in the

life of the town at a local hall. He has catalogued changing

nity in the average British

Where once his newsreels were full of "Chingford Day" parades and local events complete with mayors and bunting, lack of interest has put an end to the annual pageants. Locally owned haberdashers and merchants disappear in front of Mr national chain stores and anonymous hurger joints.

The future of the newsreels hole in the garden where the themselves is now threatened because Kodak has stopped making the kind of film Mr Piggott needs to make his films, and the company has only a few months' supply left.

Not all of the events covered by the newsreels make the most scintillating news stories, but the slower-paced and gen-Piggott's lens to reappear as the nature of the past comes through the years to us. Sometime during the Seventies a The Silver Jubilee was a man finds an old coin in his gartime of a wonderful spirit," says den and Mr Piggott is there aged to get in to the BBC.

coin was found. Mr Piggott has found the time to film the changing telephone boxes of Chingford and to record the day the council ordered the end of dusthins and imposed black bin liners. There is a kind of Zen duliness operating in the films that is quietly relaxing, so BBC2 tracked down Mr Piggott and put him in Picture This, its series about people who are gently out of the ordinary. After 40 years he has at last man-

EU presidency fuels push for jobs

The Government is to take advantage of its presidency of the European Union to push joh creation in the cultural industries where Britain is strong. Chris Smith, Secretary of State for Culture, announced ves-

Britain will stage three major conferences and more than 100 events in the next six months as its cultural contrihution to its EU presidency.

The Government wants to encourage the television, music, radio and Internet industries across Europe to create jobs. Mr Smith said.

"We are seeing a flourishing of talent and creativity in this country, particularly in the audio-visual industry. The jobs of the future are going to come increasingly from the cultural sector in its widest sense. We intend to explore with our European partners how this can be schieved and encouraged."

Mr Smith's statement was reinforced yesierday by the first repayment of part of a lottery grant to a British film. Shooting Fish, the hit British comedy starring Kaie Beckinsale, has already taken f4m at the British box office. But it is successful distribution sales around the world that have allowed producers Winchester Films to begin paying back the £981,0001 lottery grant, according to Gary

Smith, who heads the studio. The comedy was among the first batch of productions to receive a lottery boost from the Arts Council, which requires partnership funding of at least 25 per cent and a return on any

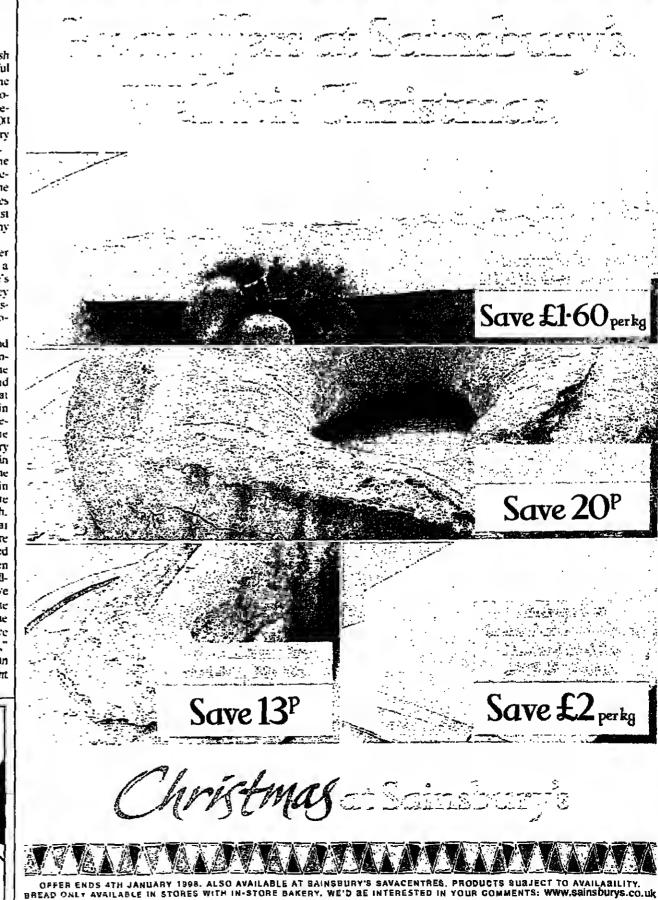
The first conference under Mr Smith's plans will be a meeting in March of Europe's culture ministers at Shrigley Hall, near Macclesfield, to discuss the reviews of audiovisual policies.

Media company leaders and professionals will meet in Birmingham in April to discuss the challenges of the digital age, and arts professionals will meet at the South Bank in London in May to discuss culture, creanvity and employment. The 100 events around the country include an exhibition of Holbein in London, one dedicated to the Nazi victim Anne Frank in York, and a lecture on the Spanish Armada in Plymouth.

Mr Smith conceded that many had been arranged before the UK presidency, and linked in, but he said: "If we had been going to create an all-singing, alldancing festival, we would have had to launch long before the May I this year, and before [the general election on May I we were not in a position to do so,"

- Paul McConn Media Correspondent





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In the lead-up to a visit to London by the itude." Under existing legislation, search-Turkish Prime Minister today, police have raided two Kurdish community centres in north London. Kurds in Britain see this as terial of substantial value for the investipart of a creeping campaign against them. gation of a terrorist offence.

The raids took place at Kurdish centres in Haringey and Stoke Newington, under the terms of the Prevention of Terrorism Act. The search warrant for last month's raids talked of "evidence of conributions towards acts of terrorism moncy, accounting records, computer records and other documentation".

Legislation still in the pipeline will make it possible to bring prosecutions against those who fundraise in Britain for what are regarded as terrorist activities elsewhere. The authoritles already seem eager, however, to toughen up. A police spokesman said yesterday that the raids were in connection with an "ongoing investigation into alleged money-laundering", but added: "As the PKK on a recently published blacklist

es can be carried out under the terms of the Prevention of Terrorism Act for ma-

Many Kurds in Britain are sympathetic to the aims of the Kurdish Workers' Party, the PKK, which is involved in a long-running guerrilla struggle against the Turkish armed forces for Kurdish independence. It is legal in Britain, but the PKK is banned in several European countries, including Germany - which is especially keen to have good relations with Turkey.

Mizgin Sen, co-ordinator of the Kurdish Information Centre, expressed the fear that tougher action against Kurdish groups is "part of a criminalisation campaign against the PKK ... this is definitely a sign in that direction."

The US State Department also placed in all laws, there is a certain amount of lat- of "foreign terrorist organisations". Un-

der the American rules, it is a criminal offence to supply funds to the designated organisations. Members of the listed organisations can be denied entry or expelled from the United States. Bank accounts can be blocked.

Last month's swoop on the offices of the Kurdish Workers' Association came ahead of today's visit to London by the Turkish Prime Minister, Mesut Yilmaz. who is due to meet Tony Blair at 10 Downing Street. Turkey's bid for membership of the European Union will be on the agenda. Harsh Turkish policies towards Kurds have been raised by critics of the Turkish government as an important reason for refusing the Turkish application.

The peace campaigner, Bianca Jagger, delivered a tetter to 10 Downing Street yesterday, which called for a "peaceful settlement to the Kurdish conflict" and an end to human rights abuses.



Female guerrillas of the PKK training in the Bekaa Valley, Lebanon. Many Kurds in Britain are sympathetic to the Photograph: Magnum organisation's aims. It is legal in Britain but banned in several European countries

Are homeless people worth just 2 minutes of your time?

HE NUMBER OF HOMELESS L families in the UK has almost doubled in the last fifteen years. Shelter thinks much more decisive action is needed.

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Providing decent housing for homeless people makes economic sense in the long term. The savings on health care costs alone would make it financially worthwhile. And what price do you put on ruined lives? The children, for instance, who may never know a real home...

It's not about politics, it's about getting homeless people decent homes, and off the streets. But to tackle Britain's housing crisis effectively we have to keep in touch with public opinion.

Please spend just two minutes of your time completing this survey, and return it as soon as you can.

If you can also make a donation of f15 (or whatever you can afford) we would be very grateful. Please let us have



1997 Shelter National Opinion Survey on Homelessness

75+ 🗆

Please help us make this the widest ever survey of attitudes to homelessness. Your contribution will be much appreciated, and your answers treated in the strictest confidence. Please complete and return within 14 days.

55-64 🗆

Q1.	Are	you	aged:
			_

18-24 🗀

45-54

to you?

Q2. Do you: Own your own home or have a mortgage? Rent privately? Rent from a Housing Association or local authority? Live in someone else's home? Other Q3. Do you share your home with: Yes 🔲 No 🗀 Children? Partner/husbend/wife or anyone else related to you? Yes 🗆 No 🗆 Someone not related

Hava you ever baen homeless or at serious risk of losing your home yourself (through a tenancy ending, not being able to afford the rent or mortgage, break up of relationship, or other reason)?

Yes 🗀 No 🗆

Yes 🗆 No 🗆

Do you know anyone else who is either homeless or at serious risk of losing their home in such a way?

At risk of homelessness Yes
No Actually homeless Yes 🗆 No 🗆

Bad housing can have sarious longterm consequences. Please show how important you view these problems (tick one box only for each problem; 1 being the most important):

> 1 2 3 People suffering esthme, bronchitis and other

serious diseases People becoming more dependent on social services 🔲 🔲 🔲

Q7. Do you think politicians are at present sufficiently concerned about the plight of homeless people?

> Yes 🗆 No 🔝 Don't know □

Q8. Would you be willing to write a letter to an MP which might help to get homeless

Yes 🗆 No □ Don't know 🗆 Q9. Would you be willing to make a donation

No 🗆

to Shelter to help homeless people?

people housed?

(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE) Name: Address:

Postcode:_

Thank you for your time. If you would like to make a donation, please completa tha section below. We suggest £15, but any amount you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Here is my gift of: £15 🔲 🛚 Other £

Pleese enclose your cheque/Postel Order (payable to SHELTER) with this survey OR complete the credit card authorisation below and send it to: Shelter, FREEPOST, Room 60, 88 Old Street, London EC1B 1ND.

☐ Please charge the above sum to my MesterCard/Vise/CAF Cherity card no: Expiry date 97/1/50

Siberia crash pilots praised for averting worse disaster

The Russian Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, visiting the ruins where 65 people were killed by a jet on Saturday, absolved the pilots and praised the dead crew for doing all they could to prevent a greater disaster. He cited "technical reasons" for the shuldown of two nf the plane's engines seconds after it took off from the Siberian city of Irkutsk. The An-124 military transport bit a five-storey apartment. The aircraft was carrying 23 people; most of the other dead were believed to be residents of the apartment block and two children who died in a fire at an orphanage that the plane clipped during its descent.

Solidarity relaunched

The Solidarity bloc leading Poland's coalition government relaunched itself. The AWS Social Movement will be the political incarnation of the Solidarity trade union that toppled Communism in 1989, its leader, Marian Krzaklewski, said. It aims to be a strong Christian democratle party uniting many of the 40 small parties that formed the Solidarity Election Action alliance to fight parliamentary elections in September. It defeated the ex-Comnunists and now controls 201 of the 460 seats in the lower house

Chechen bomb suspects held

Security forces detained a Chechen woman for hiding explosives in her Moscow flat and were holding two other Chechen women for smuggling weapons into the city, officials said. The explosives seized were similar to those used in attacks in the cities of Nalchik and Voronezh last year, a spokesman said. - AP, Moscow

Second World War revisited

Police evacuated all 9,000 residents of the French town of Dugny while experts defused a 500kg World War Two British bomb. Dugny, north of Paris, was heavily bombed in 1943-44 by Allied forces targeting the Nazi-occupied Le Bourget airport. In Oranienburg, a town of 29,000 about 15km from Berlin, police evacuated 10,000 people while experts successfully defused another Second World — Reuters, Paris

King Size Dick fired up

A popular Cologne singer, King Size Dick, escaped unhurt from his flat when fire broke out during a dinner party. He was hosting a party for guests including the Mayor, Renate Canisius, and media figures. King Size Dick was born Heinz Ganss in 1942. As a young singer in Britain in the 1960s he was given the nickname 'King Size" by friends for his size - six feet tall and 250lh. He returned to Cologne and local fans added "Dick", which means "fat". - Reuters, Cologne

German officer in neo-Nazi scandal

Lieutenant-General Hartmut Olboeter, head of the personnel department of the defence ministry, yesterday became the highest-ranking casualty in the undeclared war being waged inside the German armed forces. Gen Olboeter, a 57-year-old Berliner who lists "history and sport" as his hobbies, was suspended pending an investigation into the second neo-Nazi scandal to hit the Bundeswehr within a week.

The general was the head of the army's top academy in 1995, the year when a certain Manfred Roeder was invited to lecture to his staff. Roeder, who had spent eight years in jail for torching a refugee hostel and causing the death of two Vietnamese immigrants, was a known neo-Nazi.

Volker Rühe, the defence minister, revealed yesterday that up to 30 officers had listened to the lecture, without recognising their illustrinus guest's name.

Nor did the subject of his lecture - "German resettlement of the Kaliningrad region" - set any alarm bells ringing. Kaliningrad is the Russian name of the former East Prussian city of Königsberg, flattened during the Second World War, its Teu-

ionic population driven out and the rubble repopulated with Russians.

The 68-year-old neo-Nazi leader presented himself as representative of a charity named "German-Russian Community Workshop - Association for the Support of North-East Prussia". The goal of this charity is to help ethnic Germans fleeing from hardship in the former Soviet Union to resettle not in Germany – but in East

It was on this subject that Roeder spoke to the academy's staff, and it was for this "humanitarian" cause that his organisation received help: the gift of a van and two smaller vehicles. Before imparting its donation, the defence ministry had checked with another govemment department. The foreign ministry's verdict was that the "charity's" activities were "in the interest of Germany".

The Roeder affair is the fourth neo-Nazi scandal to pop up in the German media this year without warning. Videos, pictures and lectures of two years ago are being leaked to the press from dubious sources. The result is turmoil, and more revelations are certain to come. — Imre Karacs, Bonn

Christmas?

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HELP IS AT HAND Stear Christmas Grift Guide thicay 13 December to help hedecide what you'll be

Bing this Christmas.

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Suspects held

War revisited

frud up

officer in ? scandal

Keeping the peace becomes a job for life

If the Dayton peace accord had gone according to schedule, the international community would now be looking at a gentle withdrawal from Bosnia. But the talk at today's Peace Implementation Council meeting in Bonn is likely to be of greater, not lesser, international involvement. Andrew Gumbel reports on the drift towards keeping Bosnia as a kind of international

ionable to think that elections would solve the problems in Bosnia that four years of hrutal but inconclusive conflict had only exacerbated. The international community set up a the country's complex post-war constitution, with its multiple the former warring factions, presidencies, parliaments and local councils that both link and divide the two entities (Serbs on one side, Moslems and Croats were intended to help address

Once upon a time, it was fash-

protectorate.

on the other). As a result, Bosnia has elec- refugees to vote in their old rions coming out of its ears. September's municipal polls were so hard to administer that the together. But the Muslim counresults were not made known for more than a month. Two weeks ago, the Bosnian Serbs foot in the town, much less covoted for a new parliament. Next year, fresh elections are slated to renew nearly all of the country's fragile institutions.

Rather than leading the country towards greater autonomy. however, the elections seem only to be increasing Bosnia's dependence on the outside world. Not only have Nato and the reluctant US Defense Department acknowledged the need to maintain a considerable peace- ever being denounced as keeping force beyond the nominal pull-out date next summer. but the civilian authorities - notably the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in in Pale in the mountains outside Europe which has both moni- Sarajevo. The power structure

far - also see no chance to hand over their powers to local authorities any nme soon.

At today's Bonn meeting the civilian High Representative's office will be lobbying for binding powers of arbitration to resolve disputes between the federal presidents of the three national groupings. Despite some resistance to such ideas, notably from Russia, the word "protectorate" is being bandied about by international negotiators with increasing frequency.

"What we're looking at is a Cyprus situation, in which there is little or no prospect of the core issues being resolved if the international community stays, hut every prospect of renewed conflict if it goes," remarked one senior OSCE official.

The rub of the problem is the continuing sway of nationalist political parties. Trust between the three communities is so low, and fear of renewed conflict so great, that voters feel they have to protect their own grouping's immediate interests first. formidable machine to service But that means only growing entrenchment in the positions of and a near-total breakdown in their common institutions.

September's municipal polls this problem by encouraging homes and thus force two or more hostile groupings to work cillors who won a majority in Srebrenica are too scared to set operate with the Serb leadership that massacred their people by the thousand. There are similar stories of Croat intransigence towards the Serbs in Drvar, or towards the Muslims in Zepce.

In Breko, the contested city that forms a pivot between the two halves of Serb-held Bosnia, a mixed Serb-Muslim council has been successfully established, but its every move is forunconstitutional or unfair by one side or the other.

Most intransigent of all is the hardline Serb leadership based



Cold comfort: Nato's peacekeepers face another bitter winter in Bosnia

still intact and very much under his personal influence, even though he has been indicted for war crimes in The Hague and forced to go to ground.

The international community's biggest hope over the past few months has been the emergence of a rival, more outward-looking Serb leadership under Mr Karadzie's successor Biljana Playsie, based in the north-western city of Banja Luka. But the recent Bosnian Serb elections, whose results were announced on Sunday. failed to turn the tide convincingly away from Mr Karadzic's

president, Radovan Karadzic, is ing a stalemate in which no stable majority can be formed.

> Failing a dismantling of the Karadzic machine (his imminent arrest has been rumoured for months, but is yet to materialise). Serb Bosnia looks likely to split into two, with the western half becoming more openminded and co-operative and the eastern half sinking deeper into paranoid nationalism.

According to their own logic. the Pale authorities have every interest in scuppering the peace process, which explains why there has been little or no advance on such pan-Bosnian issucs as an integrated phone sys-

car licence plates, and a common currency.

The international community does have some powerful tools at its disposal, notably aid money which is now flowing more strongly towards Mrs Playsic's half of Serb Bosnia and markedly less so towards Pale. According to a prominent risk analysis company in London. private investors have not given up hoping that a reasonable venture capital environment have curbed their power at the might emerge after another election or two.

But progress can never be substantial as long as the political scene remains so intransi-

may be inching towards greater pluralism, there are signs of radicalisation among the Muslims, with an increasingly powerful

Photograph: Chris Helgren/Reuters

faction in their own nationalist party talking about setting up an independent, ethnically pure Bosniak state. Relations between the Muslims and Croats in such divided cities as Mostar remain as tense as ever.

Elections have not removed the war-mongers; at best they price of political paralysis. No wonder the international community is tempted to take a more proactive role itself - even if this means sinking ever deeper into

Idea born out of Europe's imperial heyday

In the end it boils down to semantics. Bosnia may be sliding towards the status of de facto protectorate of the United Nations. But what exactly does that mean? In a chequered career, the word "protecturate" has variously been synonymous with dominion, "mandated" territory, "trustee" territory, old fashioned colony and a dictator's brutal land-grab.

Essentially, they were ercatures of the European imperial heyday. For 44 years until 1956, Morocco was a prime specimen, split between a Spanish protectorate in the north and a French one in the south of the country. Former South Yemen used to be part of a British protectorate of South Arabia. Somalia, until 1960, was divided between a British protectorate in the north, and an Italian-run trusteeship in the south.

Which leads into the next stage of the protectorate game. When Germany was defeated in 1918, most of its ex-colonies came under the umbrella of the inter-war League of Nations, with various countries mandated to run them. Thus South Africa's increasingly contested stewardship of Namibia, New Zealand's Western Samoa, and former German Togoland, divided in 1918 hetween Britain and France as mandated powers. Britain was the mandated power for Iraq.

With the remaining reputation of the protectorate destroyed by the Nazi dismemberment of Czechoslovakia and the German "protectorate" over Bohemia and Moravia, the names changed. But the game didn't. The League of Nations was replaced by the United Nations, Mandates became trusteeships.

Today the empires have vanished and so have the official protectorates, mandated territories and the rest - now independent states in their own right. The last UN trusteeship, over the Pacific archipelago of Palau, ended in 1995. The sole remnants are 13 tiny British overseas dependencies, a few French islands scattered across the oceans, and US "external territories" like Guam. American Samoa and Puerto Rico.

Even so, undeclared protectorates fived on. Post-war Hungary and Czechoslovakia were nominally independent countries, But as events in 1956 and 1968 displayed, in practice they were at the mercy of Moscow, as the Red Army rolled in to "project" them from themselves. Or more benignly, take the continuing supervision of France and Italy over the statelets of Monaco and San Marino.

A few years ago, the Somalia of famine, floods and warlords seemed to suggest that the UN protectorate could be a solution for "collapsed" postcolonial states. Unfortunately, Somalia also showed that "nation-building" is a dangerous and thankless business, only for those with the stomach for the long haul. Whether the US and its allies have one for Bosnia is more than doubtful.

— Rubert Cornwell

SERBIA PREPARES FOR SECOND ROUND IN ELECTIONS

ister, and Radical Party (SRS) leader Vojislav Seselj will fight a second round in elections later this month for Serbia's presidency, their and Seselj running." parties said yesterday.

goslav President Slobodan Milosevic's ruling Socialist Party, won the largest share in the first round on Sunday but failed to gain only 51 per cent. The voter turnout must

Milan Milutinovic, the Serbian Foreign Min- an overall majority. Ivica Dacic, the Socialist spokesman, said: "There will be a second round in two weeks with Milutinovic

Mr Milurinovic, the candidate of the Yu- around 43 per cent of the vote compared with Mr Seseli's 32.5 per cent, and that the turnout among the 7.2 million electorate was

exceed 50 per cent of the electorate for a valid result.

A Seselj victory would antagonise the United States and the European Union. The Radical Party (SRS) leader would be even less co-operative than Mr Milosevic in complying with the Bosnian peace process, including the surrender of indicted war criminals.

— Reuters, Belgrade

THE INDEPENDENT

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Winnie Mandela ruled out of race for top ANC post

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela that the Women's League had constitutional right to nominate end but a statement would not — to climb down. Although 25 per cent of the 3,000 deleappears to be out of the race to become deputy president of the African National Congress after an announcement by party leaders that she has lost the support of the ANC Women's

Four days after the end of special public hearings into her bate about Mrs Mandela's elecalleged involvement in at least six murders in the late 1980s. mention that the League, of nent issues" were discussed at work out a face-saving formu-ANC sources claimed yesterday

An ANC spokesman also made the surprising claim that the League was not entitled to nominate anyone for the post anyway. Despite weeks of dewhich she is president, has no a League meeting at the week- la to allow it - and its president

withdrawn its nomination of a candidate. As the ANC lead- be released until the conference. deselection almost certainly gates. Mrs Mandela for the deputy ership's claims ran on national radio yesterday the Women's seems that the Women's League issued a statement League - severely split over insisting that it had not dropped Mrs Mandela's candidature -Mrs Mandela from its nomina- has finally bowed to party prestions list for the party elections sure and dropped her, but is an-

Its general secretary, Batha-

to be held next week.

Despite the confusion it gered at yesterday's premature announcement. It is believed tion bid, this was the first bile Dlamini, said that "perti- that the League wanted time to

spells the end for Mrs Mandela's leadership ambitions this time round - there is still an outside chance of her reach-

ing the ballot paper next week. It is still possible that a supporter could nominate her from the floor of the party conference. Her name would then go on to the ballot paper if the close second to Mr Zuma in allegedly committed by her nomination had the support of some provinces, and on the notorious Mandela United

Most provinces - including Mrs Mandela's powerhase, the Eastern Cape - have now announced that they are supporting the leadership's choice, Jacob Zuma. for deputy president. However, despite beavy pressure from the leadership, Mrs Mandela has still run a

ber one-vote and votes are cast in cartoons and columns.

The weekend newspapers came out strongly against Mrs Mandela after her nine-day hearing before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Her attacks on her accusers and her hianket denial of involvements in murders and assaults

Football Club were lampooned

Yesterday the respected Business Day newspaper called for the party to finally take on Mrs Mandela head-on. Its leader writers said she showed utter contempt for the notion of accountability, and that she played on the dissatisfactions of the poor without presenting any alternative policies.

--- Mory Braid, Johannesburg

US urges caution on Nazi cash hunt

US officials leading the effort to recover Holocaust-era assets yesterday urged city and state officials from around the country to refrain from imposing sauctions on Switzerland.

In a speech read to a conference of finance officials in New York, Stuart Eizenstat, Under-Secretary of State, suggested punitive measures against Swiss banks were "not only unwarranted but also would be counter-productive".

The conference is expected to approve the formation of a committee to monitor Swiss banks that may have moved some of the missing funds from Europe to their US hranches in the 1930s and 1940s.

The banks most closely involved were the Swiss Bank Corporation and the Union Bank of Switzerland. At the weekend the SBC was censured by the New York Governor, George Pataki, for allegedly holding back information requested by the state. In October Californian officials said it was suspending all husiness with Swiss banks pending a satisfactory conclusion to the investigation into Holocaust assets.

Mr Eizenstat told yesterday's conference: "I see little wisdom in increasing pressure just when progress is finally being made and just when the desired results are finally within reach."

- David Usborne, New York

Air safety call

A formal public hearing into the crash of TWA flight 800 opened yesterday in Baltimore with a call for new safety standards to ensure that flammable vapours are cleared from aircraft fuel tanks.

The call came from Jim Hall, chairman of the US transport safety watchdog, the National Transportation Safety Board, who argued that clearing potentially dan- The most senior Iraqi to visit Tehran, which Iraq bombarded gerous vapours was even more important than determining precisely what sparked arrived yesterday to plead the explosion that is believed to have Baghdad's case against UN caused the disaster.

The Paris-bound plane, a Boeing 747. exploded 12 minutes after take-off from Kennedy Airport, New York, in the evening a message from President Sadof 17 July 1996. Ali 230 people on board died. Although most of the wreckage has been recovered, the exact cause of the crash has still not been established, although sabotage has been ruled out.

— Mary Dejevsky, Washington



The number of people forced out of their homes by hardship or fear - like the Zairean refugees pictured here - is rising, but their chances of finding safe refuge are dwindling, said a UN report out yesterday. Europe, in particular, was closing the door to refugees Photograph: Reuters

Iraq tries to mend fences

sanctions at an Islamic summit. Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan said be was bearing dam Hussein to Muslim leaders, due to start a summit today. He drove from Baghdad to the Iranian border at Khorramshab, where he boarded an Iranian airliner for the flight to

Tehran since the 1979 revolution during its 1980-88 war with Iran. The sight of the Iraqi of ficial stepping from an Iranian plane at Tehran's Mehrabad airport enraged some Iranians. who flooded state television with queries. Mr Ramadan was forced to take his unconven-

tional route to the summit by

UN sanctions, which prohibit

flights to or from Iraq. - Reuters, Tehran Robert Fisk, page 17

Hard luck café

Tel Aviv's Hard Rock Café - sandwiched between the sites of two suicide bombings which killed a total of 35 people - has closed, a casualty of slumping tourism.

The Hard Rock Café's problem is that not many tourists are coming now to Israel ... and it's very hard to survive without [them]," Raanan Saad. who represents a group of foreign investors in the Israeli franchise, said.

- Reuters, Jerusalem

HK assembly hand picked

Elections Chinese-style made thing to say, I will say it," he their debut in Hong Kong yes- pledged. Mr Lee got far fewer terday, when a hand-picked committee selected 36 people to represent the ex-colony in China's parliament.

Members of Hong Kong's most popular party, the Democratic Party, failed to jump the first burdle of getting 10 nominations from the 424 electors.

Allen Lee, leader of the Liberal Party, is likely to be the only critical voice. "If I have some-

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head of the New China News Agency. Mr Jiang only arrived in Hong Kong three months ago, and is not eligible to stand in elections because seven years

residence is required. However, this did not seem to bother the electors, largely supporters of Peking.

- Stephen Vines, Hong Kong

Wet-nurse clue to riddle of King Tut

French archaeologists who found the tomh of Tutankhamun's wet-nurse said it shed light on the mysterious boy king who ruled 3,000 years ago. Alain Zivie, director of the mission, said his team was clearing the first level of the tomh of the nurse, named Maya. "We may find another level, maybe more. It's already wonderful, because 'King Tut' ... has always been a myth and because of the discovery exactly 75 years ago by Howard Carter of his tomh," said Mr Zivie at Saqqara, 20 miles from Cairo. — Reuters, Saggara

Talking to Turkey

Yitzhak Mordechai, Israel's Defence Minister, held talks on broadening military ties with Turkey. He said that no third party should fear the co-operation between the two countries. In Paris, the US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, pressed the Israelis and Palestinians to make key decisions on peace. From Israel she demanded a "credible" new West Bank troop pullback and freeze on Jewish settlements; from the Palestinians she demanded a firmer commitment to protect Israel from attack by Muslim extremists.

Old foes make up

Two of Cambodia's most bitter political rivals vowed to end their differences in the name of peace. "I'm very happy to have the chance to have a discussion with Hun Sen." the opposition leader Sam Rainsy said after meeting the Second Prime Minister, Hun Sen, the country's most powerful leader. - AP, Tokmau

Somali toli rises

Doctors in the Somali capital said 41 children had died of cholera and medicine was needed to prevent an epidemic. The outbreak has been blamed on heavy rains since - Reuters, Mogadishu

Finns go full pelt

A Finnish fox farmer shot and wounded three anti-fur activists apparently trying to spray-paint his foxes to make their pelts worthless, the most serious incident in a feud between activists and Finland's fur industry, the world's largest supplier of fox furs. - Reuters, Helsinki

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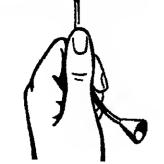
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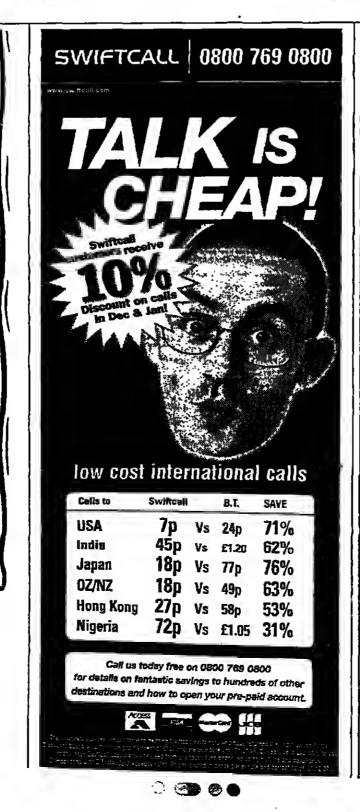


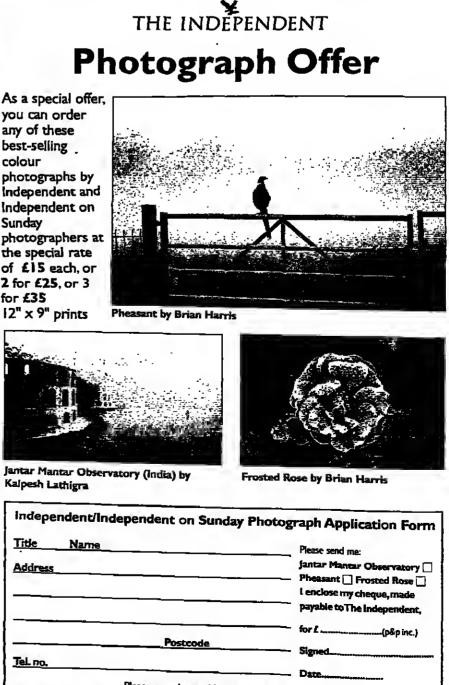
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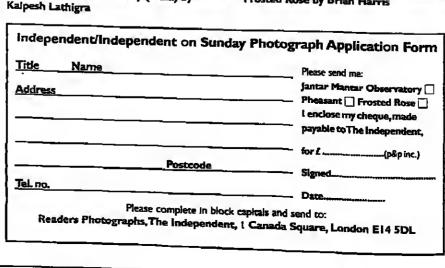
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'I still have no idea how I caught TB'

As tuberculosis returns to affluent societies, even those vaccinated in childhood may be at risk of contracting the illness, as Giles O'Bryen discovered. By Sarah Jewel.

Giles O'Bryen, a publisher, 38, went on holiday last Easter in Devon with his family before his wife gave birth to their third child. He came back home to London feeling rather more tired than he had expected after a week's hreak, and woke up with a blinding headache which got steadily worse. He also suffered terrible aches in his legs and lower back. His doctor said he had a slight urine infection and prescribed a course of antibiotics.

But despite taking antibiotics and "guzzling painkillers", Giles felt progressively ill. He had a very high temperature and felt delirious to the point where be didn't know if he was awake or asleep. He started having terrible dreams and kept waking drenched in sweat, exhausted and frightened.

He had one very vivid recurring nightmare. "I was slogging up a hill in a clapped-out seaside town and a really unpleasant spotty lout with a slavering dog at his side kept tracking me. Every time I thought he had gone, suddenly he would be there again and he kept saying things to me like, 'you'd better not move', and I'd say, 'why not?", and he'd say, because my dog's got you', and I'd look down and there was his dog with my knee clamped in its mouth. Eventually I hid in a little seaside shack but he kept bursting through the wall panels with a knife in his hand." Afterwards, Giles felt that this man was a personification of his disease.

. His wife, Emma, became so worried she called the doctor out on a home visit. He took one look at Giles and decided to admit him to hospital immediately, where he was prodded and poked by a team of doctors who couldn't find anything wrong. Eleven hours later, they were about to discharge him when one of the doctors decided to give him an X-ray, and it was then that Giles was fold there was "something odd" showing up on the X-ray and that there—is caused by the bacterium of the was a cavity in one of his lungs. same name heing passed from He was eventually diagnosed us having tuberculosis and immediately moved to the isolation ward.

Giles was appalled. "I felt shocked and anxious at the thought of having TB and nurses inserted a drip into my hand and started sluicing me through with antihiotics." He picked up just from someone undernourished." else sneezing.

Once a disease affecting all to the poorer regions of the



Giles O'Bryen is now back home with his wife Emma and their daughters after his nightmarish bout of TB

Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra

antibiotics. Today, after decades of being on the decrease, TB is hack in more affluent societies. The number of notified cases in England and Wales between 1987 and 1993 rose by 17.2 per cent and a similar pattern was observed in other European countries and the US.

Although the proportion of people catching tuberculosis from middle-class backgrounds is still small, the disease, which person to person by airborne droplets, is no respector of class or creed. Dr John Moore-Gillon, TB specialist at St Bartholomew's hospital and the Royal London hospital. says: "A Eurobond dealer earnwatched with horror as the ing a quarter of a million pounds can catch TB, and I have had a patient like that. But it is still more likely to be caught by has no idea how he caught it, or people who are sleeping rough from whom. But it can easily be on the streets and who are

Symptoms may include coughing (sometimes hringing levels of society. TB was exiled up blood), chest pain and shortness of breath talthough Giles He says no studies have been

world following the discovery of bad none of these), as well as done to show if a booster later "The medical profession is terfever and vomiting. Thanks to antibiotics, bealthy patients like Giles will make a good recovery; but dangerous complications can still occur, such as fluid or air collecting between the lung and chest wall.

> TB remains the most common infective cause of death among adults worldwide: the World Health Organisation has estimated that in 1992 one third of the world's population was infected with the disease. In 1993 WHO declared TB a "global health emergency", and in March this year introduced a new strategy for managing the drugs that are used to control

Although Giles was vaccinated against TB when he was a child, the BCG does not give life-long immunity and is only expected to last about 15 years. As Professor Denis Mitchison, research professor in tuberculosis, says: "A vaccine provides 80 per cent protection in childhood against TB but by the time the child becomes an adult the BCG has very much less value."

in life improves protection.

Four powerful and hacterial drugs have to be taken for six bave nasty side-effects, ranging from orange-coloured urine to liver damage to psychosis. More led to the emergence of pocommonly, patients suffer from slight nausea and lethargy. Giles stayed in hospital for a week and then returned home feeling better but very weak and slightly jaundiced by the drugs.

up of pills: "There was a lot of munching at breakfast time." He had to give up drinking as ven one glass of wine made him feel woozy and be also deday. I'm not sure if I should mention this to you but I've been getting these pains in my knees', and was told, 'ob that will be gout, yes they can give you gout these pills'."

One of the major problems

rified of TB coming back and the only way they have of dealing with it is with these massive months to cure TB and they can doses of antibiotics," says Giles. Widespread failure to complete the drug course has

tentially incumble multidrug-

At the clinic Giles attended the walls were lined with notices warning of the dangers of not taking the drugs. "You've got to He tended to feel faint in the complete the course, otherwise mornings and it was bard work . it is bad news all round, not just getting through the daily line- for the patient but for the whole community," he says. But it is impossible to force patients to complete the drug treatment. As Dr Moore-Gillon says: "It is a difficult situation veloped gout. "I said rather because of the issue of personshamefacedly at the clinic one al freedom. We cannot compulsorily treat someone. In the

take their tablets." Giles's main worry on leaving hospital, however, was for joying the odd glass of winc. his family. His wife, Emma, with TB is that the antibiotics was due to give birth any day have to be taken for a long time and they were told that if the to prevent the risk of a relapse. haby was born within the first

US coercion is used in some

some states to force people to

two weeks of Gües starting his course of antibiotics (when he was still infectious), the baby would need a BCG injection at birth, "It was a nightmare trying to find out who would actually give the injection ... no one wanted to take responsibility for making the decision lo vaccinate a newboro baby or to administer the

vaccination. Luckily Emma did not go into labour until a few days after the crucial two-week period but they decided when the baby was four days old that he should have the BCG anyway. Emma and their two daughters were tested for TB but much to everyone's relief they all tested negative.

Giles took four weeks off work to convalence at home and slowly built up his strength pottering about and "doing a bit of DIY". The episode has left him feeling slightly dehilitated. But be is now fitter, and en-

Information on TB is available from the British Lung Foundation (0171-831 5831).

What's so special about psychotherapy?

It may be good to talk - but it makes no difference who's listening, a new study shows. eremy Laurence reports.

These are difficult times for psychotherapists. They may be feeling in need of a little post-traumatic stress disorder counselling. For research is accumulating showing that the talking cures they peddle are no better than traditional GP care.

The evidence is far from conclusive and there are good reasons why, instead of being downcast, therapists should take heart. But the findings are significant, they are a set back and they cannot be ignored. Too many counsellors and therapists are inclined to dismiss criticism as evidence of professional rivalry or deep-seated hostility rather than taking a clear-eyed look at the way forward.

The latest study, by psychiatrists at the Royal Free Hospital, London, suggests that the success of the talking cure lies in the talking - not in who you talk to.

They compared two groups of about 70 patients, most with depression, who were given either up to 12 sessions of psychotherapy or routine GP care. They all improved significantly over nine months but there were no differences between the groups. Psychotherapy, in other words, is no more effective than chatting with your GP.

At least a third of general practices offer counselling or therapy to belp patients with emotional difficulties and thousands of therapists offer their services privately. The number of organisations offering training for counsellors has risen from 76 in 1990 to 545 in 1997, and the number of trained counsellors is estimated to run into tens of thousands. More than 100,000 people are estimated to be "in therapy" of one kind or another but the boom bas bappened in the absence of bard evidence that it works.

In a commentary on the findings of the latest study, published in The Luncet last week, Dr Andre Tylee, a GP and lecturer on mental health at the Institute of Psychiatry, says that the study provides "compelling evidence" that the psychotherapy offered by a counsellor is no better than the sympathetic ear offered by the GP.

This was the broad conclusion of a controversial report by the NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination at the University of York in August which concluded that counselling of the sort offered to people undergoing divorce, bereavement or redundancy was useless when practised on its own.

That report was based on a review of existing research and was sent round the NHS by the centre, which is funded by the bealth department, to encourage best practice. It said the technique "has not been shown to produce sustained benefit in a variety of groups at risk". The finding was immediately challenged by the British Association of Counsellors who said it was "unduly negative".

An earlier review by the Australian psychiatrist, Professor Gavin Andrews, published in the British Journal of Psychiatry in 1993, reached similar conclusions. It said no trial had shown psychotherapy to be better than placebo in effecting recovery and the treatment was more expensive and carried greater risks than ordinary GP care. There is an important caveat to be added to this catalogue of gloom, What-

ever the results of therapy, patients like it. It is hugely popular. Professor Michael King and colleagues, who conducted the study at the Royal Free Hospital, noted that although patients treated by psychotherapists did no better than the rest, they were happier with their treatment. This suggests that were it provided privately, patients might still be prepared to pay for it, despite the lack of evidence of efficacy.

GPs like it, 100 - and for the same reasons. As one doctor put it: "I know there is no evidence that it works but my patients want it, there is nothing I can do for them, it is relalively cheap to provide and it's harmless."

There is a further cavear. If psychotherapy and counselling as presently practised work no better than traditional forms of care, it may be possible to refine them so that they do. The NHS Centre for Reviews report says: "More attention needs to be given to the content and effectiveness of specific forms of counselling and the skills of counsellors before this approach is extended too widely."

There is a parallel here with the development of drug treatments. Several decades ago, the dried and powdered leaves of the wild foxglove were found to be an effective treatment for heart trouble. But the effect was not consistent - some patients got better and others did not. Only when the active constituent, digoxin, was isolated and prescribed did doctors begin to get consistent results.

Similar efforts are being made to refine and develop aspects of psycbotherapy to improve results. One promising avenue has been the development of cognitive therapy - the training lechnique that seeks to correct destructive ways of thinking - for which there is evidence of efficacy. But as the latest research shows, there is much still to be done.



DR PHIL

HAMMOND

your blouse and bra, please

Tubes lately. I'm not talking hedlow extinders, or the wild American hand that gave us *White punks on dope". No, my Tubes are far more unsettling. They're an acronym, courtesy of a group of medical students, for Totally Unnecessary Breast Ex-

Eve been much troubled by

Now, a lot of medical examinations are of dubious necessity. We used to stick a finger up the backside of anyone who might have appendicitis, until someone pointed out that it was very uncomfortable and of no help in making the diagnosis. Nurses used to, and some probably still do, take halfhourly blood pressures from anyone who happens to be occupying a bed, again for no seientific reason.

These infringements are misguided rather than abusive. a reflection of protocols and procedures that had been taught many years ago and never updated. But the thought of a group of male students contriving to perform breast examinations in the knowledge that

vise an acronym to celebrate their achievement, is in a different league.

A sore throat? Then kindly remove

To he fair. I'd never beard of the acronym before, and I'd never heard medical students use it, until Natasha from the Trust Me, I'm a Doctor research team unearthed it in a doctors'

However, the taboo of doctors finding patients sexually attractive, and gratifying their desires through the physical exumination, is not much talked about at medical school. No one wants to tackle the subject full on. An 18-year-old student hursting with testosterone encounters an incredibly attractive patient. Can he switch off his sex drive, just like that?

One answer came from a brave medic writing in a student

"A 19-year-old woman was admitted to hospital for cystoscopy to investigate the possible causes of a series of urinary tract infections. I immediately noticed that she was very attractive. I began clerking but got nowhere, as I found myself they are unnecessary, and to dessistaring into a pair of inviting

hlue eyes. The patient uppeared to have developed an affection for me. As I plugged away with totally inane questions, I realised how devious I could be. I ran through a list of differential diagnoses trying to find one that would require me to examine her ample breasts that were being shoved towards me ...

To his credit, the student holted before following through with the assault, but was clearly affected by it ("you probably think I'm a worthless tump of hormone") and sought soluce in the library. A Dutch study found that

more than half their doctors thought sexual feelings towards patients were acceptable, and 4 per cent admitted to actual sexual contact. In Britain, as you'd expect, the admission figures are lower. The GMC forbids it, and we just don't talk

A hreast surgeon did, however, describe his three switches to me. "One is as a man, who finds women sexually attractive; one is as a surgeon, who wants to remove a cancer for good.

and one is as an artist who respects the female form and wants to achieve the hest cosmetic result possible. Whenever you put on your white coat, think have I got my switches right?' If not, relieve yourself."

Fortunately, I've never needed to, but I was grateful for the advice. Most students get none and, as all doctors do, they displace awkward emotions into hlack humour and another acronym is born (Remember TF Bundy? - Totally Fucked But Unfortunately Not Dead Yet). But bow often do acronymous attitudes become real behaviours?

Tu my borror, the Trust Me researchers found that the female perception of a male doctor examining their breasts unnecessarily is not unusual. Young women spoke of having their breasts examined witbout explanation when they'd gone in with a sore throat, a prescription for the Pill, for a new patient registration or even a school medical.

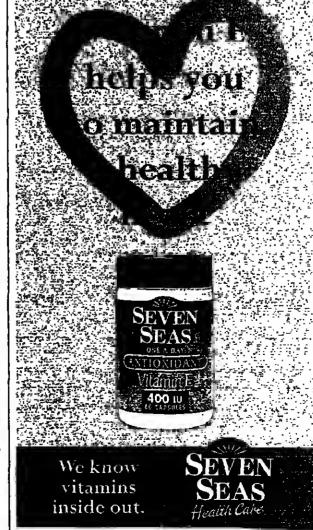
Not only did it cause lasting anxiety, but breast specialists agreed that such routine or op-

portunistic examinations are clinically unnecessary.

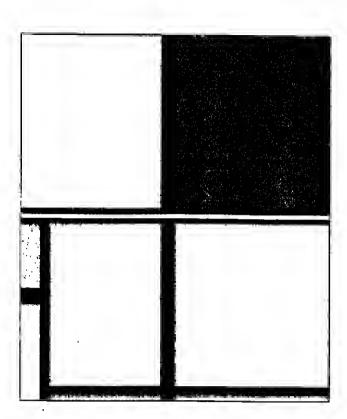
So what can you do to prevent Tubes? No one's ever shoved ample breasts in my direction, and I suspect (or, at least, hope) that the number of patients and doctors who get sexual gratification from consultations is small. Many patients have entirely trusting relationships with their GP and are happy to let the doctor decide whether an examination is necessary.

However, there is no diagnostic value in breast examinations as a "while you're here, let's do it" screening procedure or as a routine check (except for HRT, but even this is disputed). Some patients and doctors may be reassured by it, but if you don't want one, decline.

For specific breast problems ur symptoms that may be related to breast disease (eg bone pain) then an examination may well be justified, but the onus is still on the doctor to convince you of the relevance and gain your consent. Otherwise, it's assault.



14/VISUAL ARTS



The project: to reconstruct the lost works of a dead and unjustly neglected artist.

The result: a case of misattribution or just mistaken identity?

Mondrian, you might well think, looking at the image at the top left of this page. It looks like a And in a way, writes Tom Lubbock, it couldn't be, because it does something that Mondrian never does.

In Mondrian's pictures that look like this, there's always at least one vertical tine and one horizontal stretching right across the canvas, uninterrupted. Here the only vertical is hroken, divided by two horizontals. That kind of rupture, Mondrian always ruled out. It's not a Mondrian. It's a Marlow Moss.

Marlow Moss was a gay. British, female artist - what's the right order for those adjectives? - and a pupil-follower of Mondrian. She is, to put it mildly, little known. She lived from 1890 to 1958. She was christened Marjorie, and became Marlow, and adopted the clipped, mannish dress and haircut that was popular with more or less "out" lesbians in the early 20th century. She spent a good deal of time in Paris, exhibited alongside other De Styl artists, and ended up in Cornwall, where she kept very much to hersetf.

Moss made several other radical departures from the colours are standardised:

Mondrian way, one of them significant, because Mondrian borwith its close parallels. It sounds funny to say that - "Oh, the Douhlc Line, hig deal!" - hut when you reckon that much of the force and fineness of Mondrian's paintings from the late Thirties (his best, I think) depend on the use of double lines, it's a vital derelopment. But Moss's name hasn't flourished, and partly because most of her work pre-1940 was lost when German bombs destroyed her French studio. Much is known only from photos. In fact the picture above isn't strictly a Marlow Moss. It's a Flo-

Florette Dijkstra is a Dutch woman artist in her early thirties who has an exhibition about Marlow Moss at the Tate Gallery in St Ives. Dijkstra has thoroughly researched the artist, and her centrepiece is a painted reconstruction of the works of Moss, not just the lost ones, hut her complete known works. It's a chaoce, then, to know this unknown art - except that knowledge isn't exactly what the show offers.

Diikstra doesn't attempt a literat reconstruction. Alt her "Moss" versioos are miniaturised, door half-size. They're painted very perfuoctorily aod thinly, oot with the sturdy and iotense brushwork of Neo-Plasticism. What's more, their

and blues are the same unrowed it back from her. She varying red, yellow and hlue. tiooal artists that artists invent introduced the Double Line. (Obviously some of the colours - and that doubt would be to the and you see it in this picture too, had to be guessed from black-exhibition's point. Moss might and-white photos.) And then, a few of these canvases are hlank, to represent pictures that are known from unillustrated catalogues. This isn't the recovering of a body of work; rather, something to stand in for it, the tokens of an azure. Accordingly, they're not hung in the normal way, but all close together in a block, about 60 items five rows high, up one wall - as if to say: that's the lot, a life's art, all that survives of it.

> her project's "ultimate goal is to open up a new place in art history for Marlow Moss's work". the show doesn't do a straight reclamation job on a lost and neglected woman artist. It's more about loss and neglect, and making you feel the artist and her art at a remove. Photos of Moss and her Dutch lover exist, but none are in the show: there are only Dijkstra's vague drawings after those photos. Moss's sculptural constructions are represented only by another set of paintings, no 3-D replicas. There are images derived Moss, a hand leafing through a portfolio (obliquely showing some of her later work, which is mostly in storage). Everything

So while Diikstra says that

is kept distant, indirect.

throughout, all the reds, yellows Marlow Moss never existed at all, is actually one of those ficshe's remembered, and reestablishing her now is a quasifictional enterprise, given how little of her and her work is known; and then thinking about how modern art history would look if Moss had a more central place in it, which arguably she deserves, makes you think this history itself is a kind of fiction. Who decides? Who tells the story? All those questions.

Not had questions, but there's a danger of turning mischance into mystification. Moss, after all, is almost too good an example of a missing artist - she has everything not going for her. Much work destroyed, much squirrelled away from view; not just a woman, whose influence male artists may have been reluctant to admit, but a very retiring and reclusive operator who didn't really try to get into history. But still, she did exist and some of her work still does, and we can have news about it, rather than making it into an

emblem of loss. There is actually a real Moss on show in the oext door gallery at the Tate, among real Nicholsons and Hepworths, while its half-size token hangs among the rest round the corner - a curious near-juxtaposition, but it's A canoy but unknowing telling that the genuine article viewer might even suspect that isn't in the same room as the

replicas. It would rather break the cloud of unknowing that Dijkstra cultivates, It would let in the possibility of direct knowledge and response, and however late in the day, however little we have to go on.

Take the Double Line business: Moss started it, and should get credit for that, but it may still be true that the Double Line is only valuable because of what Mondrian did with it, not what Moss did with it. Originality isn't everything. To judge from the replicas, I'd say that was so, and that Moss's best work is when she departs further from Mondrian, with much more fractured scatterings of lines and oblongs. But from these smallscale, notionalised replicas, you can't really tell, and aren't re-

ally meant to. The point is, it could be done another way. Dijkstra's treatment stresses our helplessness to know the absent work. But she or aoother artist might have been more helpful, might have taken on a more literal reconstruction of the Moss œuvre. The real issue this show raises is about originality in the other sense: the possibility of usefully transmitting an artist's work at second hand. Both modernism and post-modernism are against this. Modernism says that only the artist's autheotic hand will do, that or nothing; there can be no valid substitutes for the unique handimitation as a way of casting doubt on the very idea of authenticity and uniqueness.

But it seems to me there's a middle way here, which allows for unique values in art, but allows too that some of that value can be usefully communicated by substitutes - eg by someone copying a picture very faithfully, or by somebody trying to repaint a lost picture, known from reproduction, as it might have heen, drawing on surviving work of the artist (something like Deryck Cooke's completion of Mahler's 10th Symphony).

A gallery of such copies and reconstructions, seriously done, wouldn't be invalid. It wouldn't just be fakes and pastiches. Something of the originals could come through to us. Many old masters are known only through others' copies. but when the originals turn up, you find the copy often wasn't far off the mark. And, frankly, it can't be that hard to do a passable versioo of a Moss or even a Mondrian - not as hard as it would be to do a Vermeer. Besides, the De Styl artists set oo store by individuality, so it would be quite in the spirit, too. Of course, I'm imagining a different show from the one in St Ives, and a different approach to art from any that now prevails: one not fussed about pateot law, but very interested in the distribution of goods.

The Tate Gallery, St Ives (01736

is Florette Dijkstra's rough reconstruction of Marlow Moss's Mondrianesque 'Black, White, Red and Grey', 1932 (top left), any more or less 'original' than Dijkstra's own 'Marlow Moss's studio in 1958' (above)?

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A poet of the edges of things

There's no doubt about it. Jeffery Camp is an artist of the old school. He's even written a couple of 'how to do it' guides - unamhiguously entitled 'Draw' and 'Paint'.

Andrew Lambirth relishes the solid virtues and idyllic imagery of his art.

There are one or two senior painters around who seem to be almost invisible to the general public. In all the shenanigans over the Young British Artists and the Turner Prize short list, some of the older generation have been unfairly eclipsed. Prunella Clough (burn 1919) is one, and Jeffery Camp (born 1923) is another. Both work quietly away, held in high esteem by other artists, but strangers to the glare of

1988, but rather despaired that the teach- commodated and indeed shown to very a flame. As a ing principles of his generation would be lost to future students. In this he was not far wrong. In partial remedy he decided to encode his ideas in book form: in 1981 Draw was published by Dorling Kindersley, and last year its sequel, Paint, appeared. In these two densely illustrated volumes, Camp energetically propounds his beliefs that art comes from detailed observation of the world around us, and from looking intelligently at art of the past. The style of writing is beguiling, idiosyncratic and poetic all adjectives that could be used with justification to describe his paintings. An exhibition of his work done over the

past 25 years, but consisting mainly of new things, is currently on view at Browse & Darby. In all there are some 45 items on display, a courageous amount for a small gallery, considering that some of the paintings are very big indeed. But because Camp Camp taught for many years, working works in so many different sizes and for-

good advantage.

As you enter the gallery, three large paintings strike the eye with the force of Camp's variety and range. Opposite the door hangs Beachy Head - night from 1973. It is a vertiginous composition in greys and greens, painted on canvas on a dynamic eight-sided board, and some 93 inches high. To the left is a thin diamond shape, standing on its point, again of the drop of air beside the cliffs at Beachy Head. To the right is an even more extraordinary picture, a study in intense blues of a pair of lovers reaching into space after a yellow poppy.

Elsewhere in the gallery a marvellously red-lipped girl contemplates a feather, hang-gliders take off, fishermen beach their boats, or a cat hunts under a Thames bridge. These paintings have the tranquil inspiration of an idyll. Camp's particular dahhing hrushstrokes marvel at the mysteries of creation, at the confluence of man at the Slade School of Art from 1963 to mats, the pictures can be cunningly ac- and nature, flickening like the upthrust of Peter's Street, N1 until 15 January

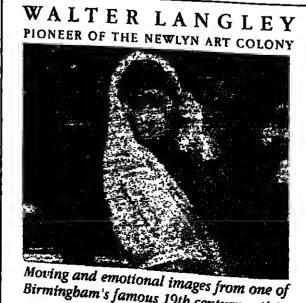
has grown ever sweeter. whilst of his compositional inventive-Camp is a poet of the edges of things, which he eu-

compasses with placid dedication - not only the cliff-edge of Beachy Head, but the frame Marvelling at within a frame he often uses to focus our the mysteries attention. Here is a master at work.

Jeffery Camp is at Browse & Darby, 19 Cork Street, London W1, until 19 December, and in a mixed print show at Art Space, 84 St



of creation: leffery Camp's Fairlight Picking Blackberries', 1997 Browse and



Birmingham's famous 19th century artists. Until 11 January '98 Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery Burningham Admission: £3.50 (£2.50) 0121 303 1966 Onginated by Penice House Gallery and Museum, Perwance, Commali This Project has been part-funanced by the European Regional Develop

صكتا من الاعل

was trying to

Wednesday BBC2, mar on the rock

Marital melt-down: having been the instigator of the counselling sessions at Relate, Trevor Collen, right, felt that the female counsellor 'sided' with his partner, Tracey Photograph: John Lawrence

*Wednesdays, BBC2, marriage on the rocks

"We know why couples go to Relate. But what on earth teoossesses them to let television wcameras in, asks Brigid McConville.

has been riveting television. For four weeks now we've been able to watch cou-ples io crisis being couoselled at Relate. Courtesy of BBC2's fly-on-the-wall docunemary Breaking Point. We've empathised with their sadness, been moved by their hart - and impressed by their struggles to understand each other.

To some exteot we've all been there yet most of us haven't broadcast nur privale wrangles to the natino. It's tough encough to salvage a troubled relationship without going so totally public. So why do people dn it! And what - ultimately - does going on television do to them?

First of the series featured Trevor Collen, a research scientist in viral immuniplogy, and his wife Tracey, a landscape gardener. Both "normal" people, parents of two young children, yet locked into a perpetual misery of bickering and blame. The film made it clear at once that Trevor's thoughtful, reserved personality is at odds with Tracey's quick-fire, up and down nature.

Unusually, it was Trevor who urged Tracey to go with him to Relate, and the film showed how they gradually learnt to listen to each other. It closed with them embracing, Tracey in tears. Trever com-

Since then, unfortunately, there have been many more tears from Tracey, much more comfort required from Trevor, hecause the fall-out from the film has caused the couple immense grief and upset. "Tracey feels extremely vulnerable." says Trevor, "as if people are whispering about her, and she has had a series of weird phone calls. She's also had bitchy comments from some womeo locally, such as 'how sad for you; we don't need help like that' - which is uncalled for god

Cruelly - because he is a mild and wellintentioned man - various journalists less" and taking Tracey's "side" against him. "The press has been a for ruder about set her thinking, 'God, I must be stupid that affected our decision making," to he married to him!' - instead of think-

ing that it's our life and it's bow we feel that counts. The way she's reacting has set us hack.'

So why did they do it in the first place? "We were both so fed up about nur relatinnship and our life that when we were approached we didn't consider the longterm implications," admits Trevor. "We also thought it would help people. But no, we wouldn't do it again."

Tracey has complained to Trevor that, in contrast to her own experience, the wnman who was in Driving School, a flynn-the-wall story about ao attempt to get behind the wheel, is oow a celebrity. So perhaps it was the chance of fame - or just heing on telly - that drew Tracey in.

Trevur and Tracey also seem to have misunderstand what sort of film it would be. "We thought it would be a video for people who wanted to try counselling," says Trevor. "We never envisaged it going out on mainstream TV. We got the wrong impression - but oo the other hand we didn't ask for it to be spelled out. It was our naivety: nnt a deception on their part."

Peter Gordon, who shot and directed Breaking Point, says: "We did make it very clear it was going to be broadcast on BBC. They saw it before it went out and they had the right to withdraw from it at any time during the counselling - and for two weeks afterwards. Relate also had a veto."

But is there an intrinsic conflict between



He has come to the conclusion that meo doo'l get a fair hearing in counselling. "Relate do an excellent job of trying to stay impartial," he says, "but I don't believe it's possible. We are all uoconsciously drawn to the persoo who speaks our language, and because most counsellars are women there is a problem for men before the thing

has again made things worse for Trevur. along, and her husband was the ooe to blame. Then we'd all get to see the truth, and we'd all be on her side. (I was.)"

Not so simple, argues Andrew G Marshall, president of the Meo's Counselling Association: "People exhibit different parts of the same problem," be says. "A wife complains her husband doesn't communicate - but when be does speak, she interrupts him. You are nearly always guilty

yourself of what you complain about in your partoer.

He agrees with Trevor, too, that men are ofteo at a disadvantage in counselling.

"Counselling is a female laoguage," be says. "It's what women do oaturally over the kitchen Jable without even being aware of it.

"Men are very problem oriented; they want solutions. But couoselling ofteo isn't like that. We need to make men feel more comfortable and the differences beled. We need to get more men in - it's a

of counsellors are men), is adamant that on the whole they were worth taking". sexist attitudes of any kind are always challenged in the training of counsellors at Relate. "We would very much value far more men as counsellors in Relate," she says. "and we do incorporate how a man may feel in our training."

On the vexed question of taking sides, she points out that "Relate counselling is about maintaining impartiality. It is a difficult issue - and journalists writing about the series have illustrated just how difficult it is. But the perceptions of people in counselling about fairness are bound to he different, and these differences can be part of the process itself."

The initiative to take part in the programme, she says, was very much left up to the couples: "Every oew client at the time was given a letter which said: 'if you wish to opl in, you can contact the BBC'. At any stage they could have said 'we don't want to do it any more'. They are adults who took their own decision about being filmed, and Relate did seek to protect the couples to the best of their ability."

Relate, she adds, is "very grateful to Trevor and Tracey, who were extremely Subsequent press reports, in Trevor's tween men and women have to be tack- brave. If it has had a negative effect on their relationship then it is very sad, but "whereas I had been suffering from de- writing in the Radio Times, suggested that scandal that there are so few male coun- they can have further counselling to bely the more difficult they become. It's a com-"maybe Tracey wanted the cameras to be sellors - and we must address how hard them get over the issues raised by the pro-plete minefield."

Julia Cole, of Relate (where 15 per cent were "risks in making the programme, but morrow at 9.50pm on BBC2.

Calls to Relate have gone up dramatically each time a Breaking Point programme is shown, she says, "which has an incredibly heneficial effect for people who feel their relationship is in trouble".

Peter Gordon also feels he could hardly have been more careful. "I've heen makiog documentaries for a long time liceludiog BBC 2's 1995 film Family Therapy] and I've never fell we've taken so much into account what people feel. We have re-cut and adjusted scenes; we've pulled a whole programme at the last hurdie hecause ooe of the couples was feeling very vulnerable."

His main ethical concern in these extremely intimate documentaries has been "what are the limits? The biggest area of self-censorship for those taking part has been the difficult things they had to say about their parents. In the end we decided we couldn't have someone saying what an unhappy childhood they had."

He says he has no idea why people agree to he in his films, except that - like Trevor - "nearly everyone who took part said they thought it might help other people. We're all interested in these stories for healthy reasons, but the closer you get,

Julia Cole acknowledges that there The last edition of 'Breaking Point' is to-

that's set her thinking, "God I must be stupid to be married to him!" - instead of thinking that it's our life and it's how we feel that counts. The way she's reacting has set us back'

'The press has been a lot ruder about me than about her, but

the healing process of counselling and the revealing process of television, with all its attendant publicity? "I think so," believes Trevor. Both he and Tracey were in a poor mental state during their discussions with the BBC. "Tracey was undenihave sneered at Trever, calling him "gorm- ably depressed, almost suicidal," he says. pression for some time. I've been on me than about her," he says, "but that's Prozac for the past three years. Perhaps there for the same reason that she even- it is for men to speak the language of coun-

There is another, related issue which selling - to prove that she was right all

Breaking Point didn't show it, but at one Men don't have the language. point, claims Trevor, their (female) counsellor sided with Tracey against him. "I got very angry and switched off, but both of us felt that things had gone wrong."

view, have echoed this hias. Polly Toynbee, tually relented and agreed to go to coun-selling."

I was trying to find the courage not to play the clarinet

REVELATIONS

The time: 1457 The place: the Royal Academy of Music. London. The man: Sir Harrison Birtwistle, composer

"I'll tell you something about being a composer and having the sort of education where creativity didn't belong. In art aspect. lessons the teacher it ould tell us to divide the paper up into to be called a working-class with certain colours. Only class backgrounds are all conthere were some colours, red - cerned with guilt and how and yellow for instance, that you are going to earn your livweren't allowed to go next to each other, and nobody ever that had been given to me, and told me why. We were also told to do a sithouette of a town by putting a wash of blue then a wash of yellow, then a wash of red, and then you inked the rest in, and every single person. in the class did the same thing. There was a sense of frustration there, no question of you are a kid you think that's the way the world is.

I had a chest of music I'd but that was a private world of writing that no one was interthat composers in the past did: it was a mysterious thing and

I was brought up to be a musician, but the thing about being a performer is that creativity never comes into it. Performing is something that can be taught. The people who play in an prehestra are middlemen. I wouldn't use the word "mere" performers, hut it's not the same relationship with the material - theirs is an interpretive thing, and for me. whatever I've done, there's always been this ereative

But I come from what used squares and then till them in background, and workinging. So I had the clarinet: that was my career. I wasn't the least bit interested in it. I wasn't good enough at it - I would have been a fairly reasonable second-rate orchestral player, I reckon. But I wasn't in a position to say "I want to be a composer" when I became a music student, heknowing what creativity was, or - cause you couldn't earn your that it even existed. But when living doing that: it wasn't what people did.

Consequently, when I went written from the one of nine. real problem. I felt very much a sense, my student life was a hiding my time. at odds hecause when I was waste of time. I was neither ested in. Music was something maybe I should be practising. hadn't made the hig decision. arship when I left school, and thought there were more inslightly holy in a way, some- reresting things to do. I closed thing you don't tamper with. It in on myself so far as my comtook me a long time to realise position was concerned. My didn't have writer's block. It had a year left so I went to Society for the Promotion of that leveld continue doing this student persona was of a was a conscious decision not to London, in the Royal Acade- New Music, which had a myself, that maybe this was rather irresponsible wind play- do it. I was trying to find the my. And it was there that I mer concert at the Cheltenham something that I could really or - I just don't think I was a courage not to play the clar- Alan Hacker, a wonderful clar- Festival, and it was performed develop and make may some very good student. My heart inct. I don't think I was scared: inct player and a natural mut there and at the Wigmore thing quite important, for me. wasn't in playing the clarinet. I'm not sure what it was, I felt sician, and I heard him play the Hall in London. I got a pub-



Liherated: giving up the clarinet was the best thing that happened to Sir Harrison Birtwistle One Barda

music for live years,

to music school, there was a and I had also decided that, in that the time wasn't right; I was

The full story is that I'd won writing music I was thinking one thing nor the other. I a four-year open music scholand when I was practising I and I didn't really write any I did three years of that in Manchester, then I did two But that period when I years' National Service in the unplayable, even with a conwasn't writing wasn't burren. I Army, and when I came out I

and at last I realised that I would never be a clarinettist. He played like an angel. I'd heard some fairly dashing clarinettists in my life, but Alan was so brilliant. I knew I would never be within light years of that. It was a watershed, I sold my clarinets. I was doing a bit of clarinet teaching once a week at a girls' school, and I sold them to a pupil.

God, I tell you, it was a permanent release in my life. I was completely relieved. It's quite something that sometimes I feel happy and I don't know what it is and then I think. I know what it is; I doo't play the clarinet any more. I felt I had cast off a lot of things that needed to be cast off: there was this feeling of heing welded to the clarinet, that it was going to he my living, but I'd got rid of it, and it was a terribly liberation lbing. And as one thing goes out of focus, another comes into focus, and in this case it was the possihility of being a composer, the confidence of thinking I had the wherewithal.

Il was gelling towards the end of that year, and at the same time I wrote a piece of music off the top of my head called "Refrains and Choruses", the first piece of music I'd written since being a schoolboy. In fact it was considered by the Royal Academy to he ductor, so I sent it to the

recorded by the Schoenherg Quintet, one of the most famous wind quintets going at the time - I remember getting this recurding that had "Birtwistle and Schoenberg" out any trouble at all, no con-

on, because that was the order

do a seminar there and they played this piece for me, and it was played by students with- I've never stopped.

ductor, I felt that the world had

Clarinet Ouintet of Mozart. Lisher through it and it was of the music on the record ... progressed in some ways. But Many years later I went the great thing about that hack to the Royal Academy to piece was that it encouraged me to write the next piece, and I wrote another piece, and

Interview by Nicholas Roe

THE IN	DEPENDENT
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DEPUTY EDITOR: COLIN HUGHES. ADDRESS: I CANADA SQUARE. CANARY WHARE LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171-345 2435

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number The season of goodwill is upon us so let's not sniff too suspiciously at the timing of yesterday's announcement about the Social Exclusion Unit in the Cabinet Office. That it came usefully close, for ministers with tender consciences, to tomorrow's vote on lone parent benefits was merely curious coincidence. Let's not, in the same spirit, commiserate with the residents of Lambeth's Stockwell Park estate. All too near Westminster, they have been on the receiving end of political visitations and the promises they bring for years and years - during which time they have continued to suffer from the ministrations of (Labour-controlled till recently) Lambeth Council.

Let's instead welcome the Unit "Social Exclusion" does (in Professor John Hills' phrase) convey a concern with dynamics. the movement of people out of poverty. There is a serious point here, and a reason why the objectors to Labour's hard line on benefit levels are wrong. A lump of cash, handed out by the state, does not make a poor household part of the mainstream. A job does, as does a child attending school regularly with a reasonable chance of getting some GCSEs. Exclusion also has a geographical resonance. There are hundreds of identifiable blocks of housing, mostly local authority or housing association, which exist outside the norms, where crime, drugs, unemployment and disaffection have become a way of life. The solution here is rarely money for property refurbishment, the Tories spent wildly on the fabric of certain estates, to no obvious

If the new Unit bends its mind to "including" people in work, schooling and ownership, this will be an administrative innovation worth celebrating. But will it? As a piece of machinery, it has a lot going for it. Here are a dozen youngish people, seven of them women, who in theory offer intellectual firepower and managerial experience (several of them have been recruited into Whitehall from the real

world). They will be advising a Cabinet Committee chaired by the Prime Mittister himself. On a. David Blunkett and John Prescott and Jack Straw will be invited to collaborate (and where necessary kicked) on a limited number of projects. The key word there is limited. If you want to change people's lives, concentrate on two or three things that will really work, and don't try to change the world. The Unit will succeed where previous attempts at courdination have tailed if it focuses its tire on efforts that we know succeed. The head of the unit. Moira Wallace, seems to realise this; she may have a job convincing political bosses avid for quick fixes and

The first issue tackled is one of the best. and most likely to bear fruit; reducing truancy and absence from school by preventive action. But that will have to involve education weltare officers, social workers. police officers, who will have to be co-ordinated. How will a new Unit achieve that?

OK, OK, GIMME A BREAK!

I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.

In theory the Unit will go out and find examples of good practice and propagate them. Having no budget it will be in no position to bribe, only to persuade. But will the town halls and the chief superintendents and the probation officers and the viduntary organisations listen to a bunch of civil servants sitting at desks in Whitehall? We have, thanks to the Audit Commission, a vast knowledge of how the police and councils might run better. The difficulty is implementation, of ensuring that recommended changes are carried through on the ground. That is essentially a political task. Yet there seemed yesterday to be a curious political innocence about proceedings. During that walkahout in Lambeth, where were the councillors? Local authorities are run by elected politicians. Most of the areas where the socially excluded live are Labour controlled. Doesn't Tony Blair therefore need to make sure his own members are on song?"

The Social Exclusion Unit has to hite

on solveable problems where success can be measured. Take truancy, on which the Department for Education and Employment has just issued new guidelines. If, in six months' time, rates of absence from school are not falling, we will know this initiative is not having much effect. Similarly homelessness among the relatively small number of people released at age 18 from statutory care. And also the Unit's third priority, reducing crime on the "worst" local authority housing estates. We know enough - there have been enough previous initiatives - to say that zero tolerance of truancy or homelessness or crime is utopian. There may be a residual population which either won't be helped or cannot he brought into the mainstream. But the effort is worth making. Provided the Government does not raise unrealistic expectations (it might start by avoiding razzmatazz of the sort in evidence at Downing Street's "summit" yesterday), the Unit can make a difference. Let's hope it does.

LETTERS

UNCLE SAM WISES UP TO GLOBAL WARMING.....

Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Indude us all

Sir. I offer two cheers to the Prime Minister on his government's decision to create a Social Exclusion Unit (article, 8 December) with the aim of tackling problems caused by a lack of education, jobs and money, particularly in the inner cities.

It is important that the young have real opportunities for training and work, that the longer-term unemployed are given the skills they need, that the vulnerable and disabled. are not forgotten, and that parents under pressure are provided the support they need. If we are not to become a society characterised by public squalor and private wealth, we must learn how to care for one another ngain. The Government's decision, therefore, to establish a special unit to grapple with social exclusion in a strategic and structured way, merits a cheer of welcome.

As the Government's programme gets under way, it is to he expected that many will want to get on to the handwagon dare I say, even those who have been the cause of much social exclusion that we see around us! In a way, this is a strength as people are recognising the urgency of the problem and there is much goodwill for a new government. On the principle of "those who are not against us are for us", such offers of co-operation should he encouraged and accepted. Another cheer.

That said, without the contribution of the churches the Government is in danger of missing a trick. That is why I cannot raise a third cheer. It appears that the Government is about to forget those who maintained a prophetic witness in this area, often against the odds. In the area of economic and social deprivation, it is the churches who have played a major role on the front line and maintained relentless pressure on sometimes unresponsive government over almost two decades.

Beyond their local presence and their social analysis, the churches have put their money where their mouth is. The Church Urban Fund, established as a result of the controversial Faith in the Cir. report, has channelled significant funds into social and comomic regeneration. as well as into the strengthening of local Christian communities

and their ministries. The churches have a wealth of experience and expertise to

bring to the task of tackling the huge problem of exclusion in our society. They must be allowed to contribute to the policy and practice of the Government's programme in a +MICHAEL NAZIR-ALI

The MPs' oath

Sir: I take issue with your leader Not fit to sit in Parliament? It is the oath that is not fit" (5 December). In taking an oath of allegiance to the Queen a Member of Parliament makes no statement about his views on the monarchy. He recognises a fact: the Queen is the head of state of the nation in whose governance

he has been elected to take a part. His intentions may well be to change that system, but by choosing the route of democracy he has chosen to recognise the current state of the system

as a starting point.

parisons with amendments permitting those who do not believe in God to affirm their allegiance rather than to use the name of a deity in whose existence they do not believe: the Queen is head of state: belief in the Christian or any other god is a matter of opinion. Bishop of Rochester MEGAN C ROBERTSON Rochester, Kent

PRIESTLEY

Sir: Adams and McGuinness said in their election manifestos, and have repeated since. . that they had no intention, if elected, of taking their seats in Parliament. That is the policy of Sinn Fein. They do not recognise the legitimacy of Parliament. Changing the oath

Crewe, Cheshire

will make no difference to that. In effect, Sinn Fein have disenfranchised the two constituencies they were elected to represent. If these two have no intention of taking their seats, why do they want free offices, free faxing, photocopying, telephoning, e-mail and library fa-

To argue that removing one more "symbolic barrier" to Sinn Fein's inclusion in democratic politics by giving them these facilities will make it more difficult for Mr Adams to use the "rhetoric of grievance and discrimination with his own tribe" (leader, 5 Decemher) is to misjudge the IRA/Sinn Fein. They want a united Ireland regardless of the wishes of the majority in Northern Ireland, and whether the rhetoric of grievance is justified or not, they will use it in the pursuit of their objective. BERT WARD

Sir: Charles Bradlaugh didn't refuse to take the oath when he was elected to Parliament in 1880, nor was the law amend-

ed in 1885 to enable him to take his seat (leader, 5 December). As an atheist (and a republican), he objected to the religious oath and preferred non-religious affirmation: hut

when he was prevented from af-

firming he not only tried to take the path eleven times but actually did so three times. His victories in two general elections and four by-elections didn't force a change in the law, because he was eventually allowed to take his scat after taking the oath in 1886. The law was changed to make non-religious affirmation possible when his own Bill was passed in 1888. but he died in 1891 before being able to take advantage of it. NICHOLAS WALTER Rationalist Press Association London N1

NHS rationing

Sir: Your article "Fears persist over survival of full and free treatment on the NHS" (1 December) confirms that Labour's election pledge to save the NHS rings hollow.

ti is an indictment of Labour's record to date that three out of four of those participating in the survey believe that by 2007 one of the core

principles of the NHS - the pro-No law for the poor vision of treatment free at the

... EVENTUALLY.

provements in the health ser-

Sir: Geoffrey Hoon asserts (letpoint of delivery - will be extinct. The Government must acter, 2 December) that small knowledge that the majority of high-street solicitor's practices, people surveyed are willing to if well managed, may well be pay more tax if they could be bener off with conditional fees sure it would lead directly to imthan legal aid. The true position is that these small practices are not govice. The gulf between what the NHS provides and what the ing to be able to conduct perpublic would like it to deliver sonal injury claims on behalf of is becoming steadily wider. the poor. Most people, in my Liberal Democrats believe that experience, rapidly hecome this can only be hridged by an poor when laid off work increase in real-terms of fundthrough injury. They are going ing for the NHS and an open to be more anxious to use their dehate on the rationing of reduced income to keep the health services. We call on the mortgage paid and the kids fed Government to come clean on than paying court fees, doctors' fees and insurance premiums. whether it intends to provide All the specialist expertise in the the NHS with the resources it nceds, or whether the shortfall office is scarcely likely to change that. will be made up by the impo-

Small practices need to be able to offer their clients a full range of services across a wide income spectrum. The Gov. ernment's proposals attack that. D G R NEWMAN Warrington, Cheshire

Faith and violence

Sir: It might be helpful if we stopped viewing religion as a purely abstract phenomenon ("Religion in the Middle East: the fundamental problem", 3 December). Religious traditions involve the subjective responses of their adherents; in times of violent conflict texts are read in the light of the fears, anxieties and aggressions of the faithful.

This can lead to highly selective and biased interpretations which are indeed very dangerous. Instead of examining the tradition as a whole there is a tendency to focus on material which appears to instify violence, Such material is usually balanced by the ultimately humane visions of the faith communities, but in times of conflict these ideals can be drastically corroded.

It is vital for religious communities to take responsibility for the violence done in their name and challenge their extremist offshoots, but this can demand great courage and self-sacrifice. JONATHAN GORSKY Education Officer

The Council of Christians and

London WCI

Sir. The dubious bonour of being "the greatest act of ethinic cleansing and barbarism in the Middle East in a thousand years" should go not to the Crusades but to the sack of Baghdad in 1258 by the Mongols under Hulagu; contemporary accounts speak of half a million killed in the fall of perhaps the greatest city in Eurasia.

the form of shamanism; they were indifferent to the religion of those they butchered. Ironically, in 1260, the Crusaders saved Islamic Egypt hy a policy of benevolent neutrality to the Mameluke army which defeated the Mongols in Palestine The Rev PETER HATTON Drnitwich, Worcestershire

Farming pickets

Sir. If the miners picket ports to stop wal coming in, the Government could use Tory legislation to confiscate National Union of Mineworkers funds. Do you think they will use those laws to confiscate National Farmers' Union funds? And if they don't, will William Hague urge them to do so? WIHYDE West Malling, Kent

Business sponsorship of the arts ... and what happens when it goes wrong



Concluding our great new business story, "The Person You Have Rung Knows You Are Calling"! Story so far, In an attempt to

get business sponsorship for his small theatre company, Mickey is offering well-heeled businessmen the chance to play a small part in a play if they offer sponsorship (cash). Roger Dunstable, who is hoss of a pipeline firm and has always wanted to go on stage, is the first to say yes, and has agreed to take the part of a corpse in a thriller.

Roger attended as many nf the rehearsals as he could, and found them not unpleasant. Rehearsals seemed to be very like business meetings in lots of ways. For a start, they never started on time, because the unimportant people were very truculent."

punctual and the more important people tended to be late. Also, as in business meetings, there were constant breaks for refreshment, Also, as in business meetings, there was a great pretence of democracy, but at the end of the day all the decisions

were taken by one man. At his meetings, it was Roger. At his rehearsals, it was Mickey.

"You must come on diffidently," said Mickey to Roger. "You're the long-lost relative from Australia. You don't know any of these people. You look around hesitantly, and 'Strewth, I've come 5,000 miles to see my relations and none of you even look like me!"

"It doesn't sound diffident to me," said Roger, "It sounds

says," hissed Phoebe the actress in his ear. "Never argue with the director. If you really don't agree, do something different, but don't argue or he'll notice." "OK," said Roger, to both of

Roger had such a small part that he didn't have to turn up at all the rehearsals, which was just as well, as a lot of his time was ing on, a major water industry deal which it was very important for him to get and he was often

taken up by a deal he was workon the phone at rehearsals to Don Wellwright, the CEO of the other firm, hammering out the details. The actors would be emoting like mad im stage when they would hear Roger on his mobile shouting: "Fehruary right?"

"Just pretend to do what he 17th! For God's sake, Don, we agreed the end of March!" and a deputation would be sent down to lower his blood pressure. his decibels and his temper.

When he had to miss a rehearsal to go to a meeting with Don Wellwright, he sent along his personal assistant Derek to rehearse instead of him.

"Nobody can rehearse instead of you!" objected Mickey to Roger later. "Derek can," said Roger,

"He knows what I want. He'll give me a full briefing later." "I don't think Roger under-

stands the differences between theatre and business," said Mickey to the group. "I'm glad he has only got the part of the corpse. I wonder if he can manage it all

As things turned out, he could. On the opening night he said his few words right, he fell dead at the right moment and he didn't move at all during the counle of minutes he had to stay on

sition of patient charges.

SIMON HUGHES MP

(North Southwark and

Bermondsey, Lib Dem)

The writer is Liberal Democrat

House of Commons

health spokesman

The only thing that went wrong was that, as he lay there dead, his mobile phone started ringing.

stage as the corpse.

And it was in his pocket. There, on stage.

Roger wondered whether to answer it or to be a professional (actor) and just lie there.

He just lay there. The actor playing Inspectur Hawkins (of the Yard) also rose

to the occasion. He retrieved the phone from the dead man's pocket and answered it.

He listened for a moment and then replied (in the character of

Inspector Hawkins): No. I'm afraid he can't come to the phone. Why not? Because he's dead, that's why ... Yes. Very

The man at the other end of the phone was Don Wellwright, who had rung up to mention some last minute detail about the deal to Roger and was horrified

to find him dead. "Who's that talking?" said Don Wellwright.

"Inspector Hawkins of the Yard," said the actor playing Inspector Hawkins of the Yard.

"Oh, my God." said Don Wellwright, and rang off,

The rest of the first night went very well, and Roger got a spe-

cial round of applause as the corpse. It was also agreed that the man playing the inspector handled the situation very well.

However, when Roger got to work the next morning, he found that as he was now thought to be dead, Don Wellwright had rung up and cancelled the whole

Worse even than that, Roger Dunstable had been replaced as managing director. His assistant Derek had moved into his office with all the speed of a man seeing an empty space to park in central London.

Roger and Derek were never to be quite on the same terms

again. MORAL: Always answer the phone yourself, even if you're

Six fashional about new La

Mongol godbothering took

Well to Mr M

Six fashionable clichés about new Labour



DONALD **MACINTYRE** MARKS BLAIR'S REPORT CARD

Flaubert's Dictionary of Received Ideas mocked the thought-free cliches of the high bourgeoisie in 19th century provincial France. A latterday British Flauhert could have an equally high old time with the metropolitan Things They Say about the Blair Labour Party. Before we examine those which have crept into fashionable discourse since the election, let's first remind ourselves about some of those that were common before it.

It'll be the same old Labour Party once they get in. This was primarily a Tory mantra, though it was also secretly muttered by some oo the left who thought of Blair merely as a necessary vehicle for getting Labour re-elected. In fact, all the signs are that Blair's exhortation to the Cabinet that "we were elected as New Labour, we will govern as New Labour" has proved to be true. A schools policy which sets up special education zones that bypass local authorities, that charges university tuition fees and huids bridges with the private sector is just one good example.

Blair, Brown and Cook are good but the rest of them aren't up to it. Hardly. There are certainly weak links; Gavin Strang and David Clark have not exactly overperformed. There will he a reshuffle before the summer of 1998, not least hecause there are some hright, amhitious ministers in the second rank. But in drive, attention to detail and enthusiasm for their jobs, Jack Straw, David Blunkett and Mo Mowlam have consistently starred in a surprisingly competent line-up.

Tony Blair's a nice guy but is too young Bambi-like to be Prime Minister. This was a - largely submerged - theme among some some of those Labour modernisers after John Smith's death who agonised that Brown would make a hetter, strooger Prime Minister, even if not a more electable Labour leader. It is now clearly ohsolete, but elements of it have resurfaced in a different, post-election form:

Blair is the company chairman/presfdcot/front man with a chief executive/ wunderfully conjured by Rory Bremner. where the Svengali-like man behind the scenes is Peter Mandelson, he is usually assumed to be Gordon Brown. The idea is that the Iron Laddie produces all the policies - popular and not so popular while Blair gladhands round the world fostering the feelgood factor being - Bremner again - Prime Minister of People's Hearts. This is not the experience of ministers f have talked to over the past few weeks. Blair has spent inordinate hours. for example, going over the small print of schools' policy with Blunkett and today's health White Paper with Frank Dobson. Nor has he exactly let go of the detail of

Northern Ireland, bringing talks to a stage at which he can see Gerry Adams without the world falling in. Detail is not a problem for his lawyer's mind. Yes, Brown is a hugely fertile source of ideas; but nothing, including the historic Commons EMU statement - as much Brown's as Blair's - is announced by the Chancellor without first being discussed, at length, with Blair. The suspicioo partly arises because Blair's rather good at using charm where Margaret Thatcher used fear. But that doesn't mean he isn't as good at enforeing his will. There's no one else, not Mandelson, not Brown, not Sir Robin Butler, to ensure that a still rather disparate Cabinct works together. And who does the detailed, fellow heads of government squaring, preparatory work for European summits if not him? Even the Bernie Ecclestone affair may have given the impression that he is more gullible than he is. It now looks as if he was uneasy about the tobacco sponsorship hao long before he met Ecclestone. You may think he was wrong. But the experience is likely to make him trust his own instincts more rather

The Blair government. All presentation and no substance. This may be almost precisely the opposite of the truth. So far most of the real problems have stemmed from presentation - either too much of it or the wrong kind - rather than the formulation of policy. It's sensible to dramatise the importance of the Social Exclusion Unit by travelling to a school in Stockwell, as Blair did yesterday, rather than by making a dry statement in the Commons. But enough, please, of the now empty phrase "People's Europe". The EMU crisis was more a problem of un-coordinated presentation than of serious policy disagreement between Downing Street and the Treasury. So too, perhaps, with some of the hostile reaction to last week's savings announcement, Incidentally Peps and Tessas had a warm quotable feel as names; The ISAs that have replaced them sound like nothing on earth. And, while we're about it, the Social Exclusion Unit is also a pretty forbidding name. Why not, at the very least, the Social Inclusion Unit? But you can't tot up the policies from an independent Bank of England to the NHS, last summer's budget, Northern Ireland and Scottish devolution and then complain

They're just like the Tories. The ferocity of Gordon's Brown's spending limits - for the first two years - is usually cited as the prime example. But would the Tories have emharked on constitutional reform? Would they be introducing a minimum wage? Did they even waot an agreement at Amsterdam? There is another, even more, fundamental difference: without Kenneth Clarke as leader, the Tories remain ideologically in the state-shrinking about a reallocation of public expenditure. to education, health, and his cherished cause of social inclusion, rather than cutting it overall. Blair does, through weifure reform, want to end what he believes to be the corresive effects of the dependency culture. There are grounds for hoping that this hugely ambitious project will bite, in time, as deeply into some of the benefits of the most prosperous as it will as a result of tomorrow's Commons vote, on new. non-working lone parents. The short-term effects of the cuts may be harsh. But there is plenty to do with the money. Be wary of received wisdom. This is a man with a



The new face of the revolution: Iranian women celebrate their football team's qualification for France 98 Photograph: Popperfoto/Reute

The Iranian political football is passed to the adults



ROBERT **FISK DEMOCRACY** IN TEHRAN

As the world's Muslim leaders flew into Tchran last night for today's Islamic summit, they could see beneath their aircraft the great golden-domed shrine of the Imam Khomeini. Visible under the are lights over a 20mile radius, it has been huilt to last for ever, an eternal memorial and place of pilgrimage to the man who created the world's first modern theocracy. But the aircraft making their final approach to Mehrabad airport over the shrice are carrying the presidents and princes of a world which has no more interest in the export of the creation - than the new goverament in Tehran.

For at the conference today, the hard men of the Iranian revolution - the Revolutionary Guards and the morally zealous komittees - will have no status. Hamas and Islamic Jihad and the Hizbollah and the other armed Islamist groups whom Tehran has supported, will have no representation. And despite all the promises to "liberate" Jerusalem from a nation - Israel - which Irao pledges never to accent the Arab-Israeli crisis will be left to the Arabs to resolve. The truth is that Iran

is far more interested in securing the frieodship of its oeighbours, in securing a lasting ceasefire in Afghanistan, in trade relations with the former Soviet Muslim republies and the Arah nations of the Gulf which Washington has for so long

tried to line up against Iran. True, Iran is happy to see the Arabs turning upon Turkey, whose new "security zone" in northern Iraq - every hit as oppressive an occupation regime as the Israeli version in southern Lebanço - constitutes a strategic threat to Iran itself. Turkey's military alliance with Israel which allows Israeli fighteraircraft access to Turkish airspace - means that for the first time ever Israeli jets can now fly along Iran's far oorth-western border, Iraq, whose 1980 invasion of Iran cost one and a half million lives in an eight-year war. has sent its foreign minister to Tehran where - grateful to Iran for its stand against Turkey - he is busy negotiating deals to exchange thousands of secretly held prisooers captured in the 1980-8B war.

fran has just released 496 Iraqi soldiers held since the war. Iraq - which previously claimed it held only one frantan pilot now admits to having another wants another 18,000 prisoners ullegedly in Iranian hands. Iran is demanding I,114 POWs still in Iraq. But the negotiations have begun and fraq is even suggesting that it may close down the camps of the Iranian opposition outside Baghdad, which are still funded by the

The conference itself contains some typical contradictions. Iran has agreed to disagree over the compromises made by Egypt, the PLO and Jordan - which it regards as nothing less than their recognition of an Israel that fran still

calls the "Zionist enemy". Confereoce officials, as the Tehran oewspaper Kayhan delicately put it, "emphasised the continuation of the compromise trend with Israel", while Iran insisted on "the total abolition of the Qods [Jerusalem] occupy-

And Iran's request for a Muslim human rights resolution is oot going to condemn Saudi Arahia's vicious "Islamic" punishments, nor Yassir Arafat's hrutal secret police, nor lrag's mass executions, nor torture in Algeria - the bloodbath there, we are wearily told, remains the country's "internal affair". And delegates, who are being invited to visit Iran's stunningly beautiful shrines at Isfahan, Shiraz and Mashad, are not going to be offered cooducted tours of the ootorious Evin prison in north Tehran. Discussioo of human rights abuses will centre, occidess to say, oo Israel's treatment of the Palestinians. Io other words, Iran is acting very much like other states in the region. As Yassir Arafat, who haso't beeo here in 15 years, and Crown Prioce Adullah and the emirs of the Gulf arrived last night, they must have been asking themselves one question: what

It was, in reality, Khomeini's child. The Ayatollah wanted to cleanse Iran of the Shah's corruption and so he invented a dream: a pure and perfect society, humble only unto God, whose ohedience was supposedly both innocent and childlike. And that, in a sense, was what Iran became - a nation of children. Through the system of velayet-e-faqih, Khomeini created a Supreme Leader, a kind of spiritual headmaster, never to be crossed or criticised or questioned. In the classroom of the streets, the "children" were taught simple chants contain-

ing supposedly ultimate truths: Death to America, Death to England. As at school, girls and boys were strictly divided; womeo became "sisters". Priends who did not always support the "childreo" became instant eoemies. This was oot childlike - this was childish, sometimes dangerously so, Foreign oations that dared to criticise the innocence of Khomeini's children were naturally - devilish, evil, Satanic. Those who sought to overthrow this infants' paradise had to be liquidated. And thus Ayatollah Khomeini did not just

room library for books that suggested the teachers were wrong. Now that society is growing up. Clerics and iotellectuals are at last daring to question the divine right of Ayatollahs. Presideot Khatami won in what was - horror of horrors for Washingtoo - a fair electioo. Even the "childreo" of the villages who seot their sons to martyrdom to the war against fraq ignored the 300,000 mullahs who naturally supported Ali-Akbar Nateq-Nouri, the candidate of Ayatollah Ali Khamanci, the current Supreme Leader, True, parallel structure of governmeou the old foreign minister Ali-Akhar Velayati, has become the Leader's "senior adviser in international affairs". ex-president Rafsanjani oow leads an "expediency council".

But Khatami retains the sup-

recreate "innocence" - he ju-

venilised a society. There was

obviously oo place to the class-

port of the people - the children thousands who gathered in the streets to celebrate Iran's football victory last week were sending him a simple message: remember us. It was people power - not Islamic tracts - that secured the 1979 revolution.

It will take time for this enormous transformation - in its way as titanic a change as the revolution - to sink in, Khatami is as yet far from hocouring all his promises on hum-in rights. The courts are weighed down by anti-feminist judgments, the morality police still cruise the streets, the satellite dish is still illegal.

Nor should we forget that trugedy stalks the good in Irao. If President Khatami does ereate pluralism, his will be the only democratic nation in the Muslim Middle East, And we in the West prefer tyrants. We like our Muslim kiogs and gencrais hecause they do what we want - and are punished if they break the rules. Does Washiogton, for example, really want a de-bestialised Shiite Muslim oation, democratic - at least by Middle East standards - and powerful and rich as well as anti-faraeli? It is difficult to see how the US and its fsracli state, which is why - when the US turns against Khatami - it will be proof that he has woo his battle. Even the Americans. however, will be uoahle to deny that the first bairline cracks have uppeared on the polished marble of the Imam's tomh.

Farewell to Mr Major's world, where chaps never resign



ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH THE OPERA HOUSE REPORT

John Major still doesn't get it. honourable thing to do. Lord not concerned with ordinary The former Prime Minister has popped up to deplore the tone and conclusions of the Select Committee report on the Royal Opera House. He seems to have been particularly taken aback by the call for the resignation of the chairman, Lord Chadlington, According to Mr. Major, Lord Chadlington, a friend, was "the solution, not the problem, and the recommendation that he should resign was bizarre".

In Mr Major's world, chaps don't resign. Whatever their mistakes, they are always well intentioned, and so they carry on, t dare say Mr Major thought that his failed Chancellor of the Exchequer, Norman Lamont, had just the qualities he ascribes to Lord Chadlington, and that is why he allowed him to stay in office after his policies had resulted in the country's humiliating expulsion from the European exchange rate mechanism.

As a matter of fact, Lord Chadlington doesn't think that he did a bad job as chairman during the past 12 months or so, but he still resigned when called upon to do so by a unanimous parliamentary committee. As he explained to Deborah Ross in The Independent vesterday, "It seemed, in the circumstances, the only

Carrington, who is something of a hero of mine, resigned over the Falklands crisis even though it wasn't his fault. Someone had to accept responsibility, so he did, t am accepting responsibility in this instance.

Lord Chadlington, who is virtually the same age as John Major, thus reaches back to an older tradition of public service. Lord Carrington was Foreign Secretary in 1982 when Argentina invaded the Falklaod Islands. For him the war represented a failure of diplomacy, and so he left office. Lord Chadlington said that he spent 18 years supporting the Tory governments but when he looked back "the one thing they did wrong was not accepting responsibility when things went wrong".

Given that Mr Major is puzzled by such a "bizarre" attitude, be should contemplate the devastating results of the monthly Gallup pull published in The Daily Telegraph last Friday. The headline accurately summed up the findings: "Labour stumbles but the Turies are cursed with a mark of Cain". Over 60 per cent of the electorate helieves that the Tories are mean-spirited, incompetent, arrogant, out of touch with the modern world, to explain away the disasters

people, lacking in a clear sense of direction and divided. If you believe that resigning

when things go wrong on your watch comes from an out-ofdate code of honour, then it follows that any reports that may he written to explain disasters should avoid calling a spade a spade. "Type of garden implement" would he more judicial. At least t think that is what Mr Major meant when he said that select committee reports should "err in understatement ... They should acknowledge difficulties in dealing with complex problems, and, above all they should be demonstrably fair". The report on the Royal Opera House fails these tests, according to the former prime minister.

As a matter of fact I read the report with some trepidation. Press enverage had warned how strong the language was. The pen of the chairman of the committee, Gerald Kaufman, had apparently cleared away all ambiguities and thus the account was written in unusually clear language. Had Mr Kaufman let himself be carried away, and with him his fellow members of Parliament, ed willy nilly without refer-Lubour and Tory alike?

Not at all, it is a very muscular report. It engages with the witnesses as they come forward

over which they presided. Ex- found that a greater priority cuses are tested and often found weak. In effect the committee said to the former chairman, Sir Angus Stirling, and the former director, Sir Jeremy tsaacs, you say that the trustees believed this and thought that. Very well, let us inspect the board minutes and see if they confirm your account.

The committee's conclusion is that Sir Jeremy sought to hide the "abysmal failure" to fiod a home for the opera and ballet companies during the rehuilding of Covent Garden, Likewise when the MPs were told that a finance committee examined, month by month, the actual and projected iocome against hudget, they asked to see a monthby-month balance sheet to demonstrate the path of the deticit. In reply, the present chief executive, Mary Allen, replied that it was not possible "to let you have the financial information you have asked for. since the Royal Opera House has not in the past produced it". One of Ms Allen's colleagues explained: such financial forecasts as existed were left on a shelf while planning proceed-

ence to them. This carclessness with publie money has been going on for a long time. An inquiry conducted as long ago as 1983

must be given to financial ohjectives in the trade-off with artistic desires. lo f992 Lady Warnock discovered that "there are oo indications as to how the closure period of 30 months will be financed, what activities the Royal Opera House might pursue during this period and where these activities might take place. Even Lord Chadlington seems to have been cursed with the same dehilitation lassitude from which his predecessors suffered. When he began his chairmanship, there was no qualified finance director in post. It took him 10 months to install one - and this dilatoriness in the midst of a finaocial

So the select committee decided to recommend something which is oo doubl completely incomprehensible to Mr Major - sack the lot of them. The former prime mioister would have conducted a well-balanced re-shuffle with perhaps one or two minor casualties, while Mr Kaufman's committee administered shock treatment. I say, thank goodness the connection between office and responsibility has been reestablished in the public service. Eveo poor Lord Chadlington. fallen as he is upon his sword, agrees with that,



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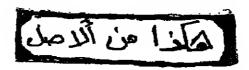
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Woodrow Wyatt: 'The Voice of Reason'

Lord Wyatt of Weeford

Woodrow Lyle Wyatt, politician and journalist: born 4 July 1918; founder and Editor, English Story 1940-50; MP (Labour) for Aston 1945-55, for Bosworth 1959-70: weekly columnist for Reynolds News 1949-61, Daily Mirror 1965-73. Sunday Mirror 1973-83, News of the World 1983-93; Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State and Financial Secretary, War Office 1951: Chairman, Horserace Totalisator Board 1976-97; Kt 1983; created 1987 Baron Wyatt of Weeford; married 1939 Susan Cox (marriage dissolved 1944), 1948 Nora Robbins (marriage dissolved 1956), 1957 Lady Moorea Hastings (one son; marriage dissolved 1966), 1966 Veronica Banszky von Ambroz (née Racz; one daughter); died London 7 December 1997.

Woodrow Wyatt always tried to live like a lord even when he was a Labour MP. He owned racehorses, drank on average nearly two bottles of wine a day until his doctor and his liver rebelled, and travelled politically from the soft left to the far right accompanied by a succession of beautiful women and a cloud of Havana cigar smoke. It seemed only fitting that he should end as chairman of the Tote and one of Mrs Thatcher's life peers. For more than balf a century his trademark was his floppy bow tie and his most useful achievement, despite his considerable talents and early promise, was to secure the patronage of the powerful and famous.

He wanted above all to attain political success. He failed in this despite sitting in the Commons for 21 years and the Lords for 10. The only office he ohtained was Under-Secretary at the old War Office and that lasted six months.

One reason for his failure was bad luck. Redistribution cost him his first seat and for long periods Labour, his original party, was not in office. But the most important reason for this lack of success was Wyatt himself. His undoubted charm

was offset by a rasping personality and often his actions alienated admirers and even close friends.

His main influence was outside Parliament. He was one of the first television stars produced by the new-style current affairs programmes of the 1950s. He used his position to stop the engineers' union coming under Communist control and, more spectacularly, be played a leading part in the fiveyear campaign to prise the Communist grip on the electricians' union. He considered, rightly, that these provided bis greatest triumphs. He also wrote newspaper

cotumns for the Mirror group and the Murdoch organisation. His News of the World column, deliberately and excessively populist, was somewhat improbably titled "The Voice of Reason". He believed these columns gave him power. Whether they did is arguable. Tabloid columns fascinate politicians more than voters. But what they did was to establish him to re-enter the political scene from which he had been rejected.

The Tote also gave Wyatt a rote in society. To millions who did not read his articles he was the man who escorted the Queen Mother at the races and spoke on behalf of the industry. The annual Tote luncheon was an extravagant affair. attended by ministers, widely reported by the media and with invitations greatly prized. In some ways it summed up the Tote. Under Wyalt the organisation was glamorous hut not dynamic. Despite hringing it into profit, his reign over its 200 betting shops had come under criticism for years, A Home Office report as long ago as 1989 called the Tote a vastly underused asset, criticised his chairdisguised suggestion that he should step down. How then, did be retain the post for the following eight years? His critics had a cruel answer - cronyism

and flattery. Wyatt was first appointed in 1976 by, it was said, Harold Wilson. This was untrue. Wilson de-

pointed by Roy Jenkins, then Home Secretary and an old friend from Gaitskellite days. who thought the joh would cheer him up. Successive Conservative Home Secretaries confirmed Jenkins's choice. They may have truly believed he was the right man for the post but they could also be sure of

something else; puffs in Wyatt's

columns

In 1994, for instance. Michael Howard, who was being being repeatedly mauled at the time, received three favourable columns in two months. A typical headline was "Blaming Howard is the Real Crime". Howard reappointed him the following year. The position was not advertised and no other candidate was considered. Wyati was first past the post in a one-horse race.

Prime Ministers were not

overbooked. When John Major was deep in trouble he could rely on Wyatt to call him "a remarkable statesman". Another Wyatt beadline announced "Why We Must Back Major". His chesest relationship, however, was with Margaret Thatcher. His feeling for her was almost idolatrous. He was said to be the only journalist who could telephone No 10, ask for the Prime Minister and be put through at once. She made him a life peer in 1987. And in 1990 one of her last acts as Prime Minister was to ensure vative majority had been more that he kept his joh for

another term. Wandrow Lyle Wyait was born on the Fourth of July 1918. His mother, in a hurst of Allied enthusiasm, named him after the American president, Windrow Wilson, There were famous architects, painters and sculptors among his ancestors and an England Test captain. R.E.S. Wyalt, was a relation. In mansbip and contained a harely contrast his father was an unsuccessful and unhappy preparatory school headmaster who despised the young Woodrow for not being good at games and beat him regularly. He also made him stand behind his armchair and stroke his

people liked to he stroked.

Public school was no better than home. He was sent to Easthourne which he resented for snohhish reasons. He would have preferred Eton or at least Marlborough. He got on hadly with his headmaster, who beat him just as his father had done. Each term he wrote in his diary: "Never forget how much you hated it here." He never did. Oxford in contrast was paradise. He read Law at Worcester, became a dandy, wore black silk pyjamas during the day, discovered women and edited a couple of magazines. He got a respectable Second as the Secand World War approached. He enlisted as a private even before it was declared.

He had a good war. By 1944 he was a major and went to France on D-Day plus one. He survived to be posted to India where he met Congress leaders and left-wingers and was considered a possible Communist by British Intelligence, He had hecome a Labour supporter originally as a reaction against his father, who hated socialism - and a Labour MP, Fred Bellenger, met him and was sufficiently impressed to get him on the list of candidates, Wyatt was recalled to Britain to fight the 1945 election and to his surprise won Birmingham Aston hy 5,767 votes. At the last general election in 1935 the Conserthan Iti.tidu

He was then very much to the left. He wrote for Tribune and the New Statesman. In the House he joined the Keep Left group. When he returned to India as a member of the Cripps mission he led the singing of the Red Flag at a viceregal reception.

All this changed. After the Bevan-Wilson-Freeman resignations in 1951 his party split. Wyatt also split - away from his Tribune colleagues. He wrote to Attlee saying he was moved by the way he had responded to the crisis. Attlee responded, rather surprisingly, hy making him Under-Secretary at the old War Office. Wyatt described his Wyatt grew to hate his father

lested him. Wyatt was ap- hut remembered how some ernment fell and he never held office again.

At the 1955 election worse happened. He lost his seat. Aston's three wards were redistributed among three other constituencies and Wyatt failed to be chosen for any of them. In 1959 the only seat he could get was Tory Grantham, a bopeless proposition. But his campaigning brought him to the attention of Grace Wyndham Goldie, founding mother of BBC current affairs programmes, and she made him a star as a roving reporter on the new Panorama programme. Television fame belped him more than anything else in his quest for a winnable constituency. After several rejections he was selected as the candidate for Bosworth. By 1959 he was back in the House.

Wyatt became one of Hugh Gaitskell's intimates until his erratic views began to irritate even the right-wing Labour leader. He campaigned for relief for surtax payers, for a Lib-Lab pact and British entry into the EEC. Shortly before Gaitskell's death he exploded at Wyatt: "Why don't you stop embarrassing me?"

Harold Wilson, his successor, took the same view, particularly when Wyatt looked like balting steel nationalisation by exploiting Labour's tiny majority after the 1964 election. But the 1966 election saw Wilson coasting bome and Wyatt ceased to be a danger.

He also ceased to be an MP. He lost Bosworth in 1970 and his increasingly right-wing views meant that he would never be selected for a Labour seat again. Instead, he tried to become a provincial newspaper haron, huying the Banbury Guardian, starting several new papers, and pioneering colour printing. Circulations grew hut advertising did not. His papers went under and eventually he had to sell

his printing plant as well. His columns were dropped by the Mirror Group but he was taken up immediately by the Murdoch organisation, where his articles in the News of the hald head for hours at a time. feeling at the time as "rapture". World reflected the prejudices But six months later the Gov- of his readers as well as his own.

wiss deal a bank bids Sometimes he came perilously close to racism. And in one campaign, when he tried to discover the voting records of BBC journalists, he came close to McCarthyism too. What also wrote a column for the Times, though in a rather different style.

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Yet despite his consistent progress to the right he never took the Tory whip. Indeed he would often say that he had never been a Conservative and d never would be, though he was a Thatcherite. There is no doubt be was closer to Margaret Thatcher than most of her colteagues. Towards the end of ber premiership be wrote: "Perhaps I am a little in love with ber, platonically of course."

His many non-platonic affairs were revealed in relentless and cotourful detail in his autobiography, Confessions of an Optimist (1985). He also bad four wives, though only two are mentioned in Who's Who. His first wife was Susan Cox. They met at Oxford, married during the war, and were divorced so that she could marry a fellow civil servant. He next married his secretary, Alix Robbins. They remained together for five years.

Wyatt's third wife - from 1957 to 1966 - was Lady Moorea Hastings, the half-Italian daughter of the 15th Earl of Huntingdon. He was fascinated by ber and she also had money, which he admitted was a help. It was helpful when she put it into his business but less helpful when she took it out. She left him for a man who, Wyatt admitted generously, was better-looking and more amiahle.

His great and lasting love was his fourth wife, Veronica ("Verushka"), the Hungarian widow of a Harley Street consultant. They married in 1966 and he always said that even the thought of life without her brought on desperation. Their daughter, Petronella, followed her father into journalism. Pericles Plantagenet Wyatt, the son from his marriage to Lady Moorea, runs a bar in California and does oot visit England. Terence Lancaster

Stanislaus Rapotec

Stanislaus Rapotec, painter: born Trieste 4 October 1913; married 1961 Andrée Du Boise (died 1976; one stepson, one stepdaughter); died Sydriey 18 November 1997.

Stanislaus Rapotec, a leading Australian painter since the Sixties when be was an exponent of "abstract expressionism". was a "hig" artist in more ways than one. He obtained several Australian prizes, was made a memher of the Order of Australia, his works are to be found in galleries and collections from Sydney to the Vatican Modern Gallery of Religious Art, yet be had never had any formal training, and never fitted into any school or establishment.

Born in 19t3 of Slovene parents in Trieste, be grew up ty; he had friends of various po-

in Ljuhljana from 1918, when Slovenia was united with the other south Slav lands in the new state of Yugoslavia. After his military service in Sarajevo, he read economics in Zagreb, where he was active in student politics, at inter-Yugoslav level, and in the International Students Federation. From 1939, he worked for a bank in Split, where he also took up painting.

After taking part as a reserve suhaltern in the short April 1941 campaign that followed the German invasion, be made his way back to Split, where an embryo organisation of Yugoslavminded patriots sent bim to contact the Yugoslav government that bad gone into exile and the Allies.

up in the spirit of Yugoslav uni-

litical leanings, in Split, in Liubljana, in Zagreh, in Sarajevo, in Belgrade. Through one-time student contacts and former hrother officers who had now joined the army of the "Independent State of Croatia", with the cover of a Red Cross delegate, he made his way to Istanhul. He was taken to Jerusalem to meet Julian Amery (the future Lord Amery of Lustleigh) of the British Special

Operations Executive. He was soon selected for one of the missions sent by the Yugoslav military and SOE into occupied Yugoslavia. In January 1942, be was landed on the Adriatic coast; in July, he was back in the Near East. For a while he was feared lost, as he Rapotec had been brought made his way from Split to Mostar, thence to Zagreb where be stayed for two and a

half months before journeying on to Belgrade, and out to Turkey - hunted by the Germans.

During that time, he had met representatives of General Mihailovic, local Chetnik armed groups in the Italian zone, Croat and Slovene politicians, young Croatian army officers, surviving Serbs and Jews in Zagreb, and he had had long meetings with Archbisbop Stepinac.

His detailed reports were lucid and unprejudiced, hut, although he knew more about what was bappening in partitioned and occupied Yugoslavia Allied camp, what be said appears not to bave heen to the liking of those to whom he reported. Most of the intelligence hrought out by him was probably (and unfortunately)

kept in Cairo by Yugoslavs and British there.

Rapotec continued to serve

with the Yugoslav battaliun in the Near East. After the war, he emigrated to Australia. where he took up painting. In 1955 he moved from Adelaide to Sydney, where he began to develop his hold, large, abstract expressions of myths, rituals and architectural forms. From the Fifties his works were exhibited also in London, Paris and

Rome, and in the United States. Rapotec was a big man, full of life, with a booming voice, in 1942 than most people in the and an infectious laugh. He made and kept friends, not only among painters - with Slovene and Serb brother officers of the Yugoslav army, poets, opera singers. The years of not passed on to London, but his marriage were a happy pe-

riod of shared enthusiasms, when he found inspiration for his famous cathedrals series in visits to Europe, as well as all sorts of solid and unadorned artefacts for the 1830s Double Bay house that had become the Rapotec home.

Following the death of his wife, Andrée, he came to spend more and more time travelling and painting in Europe. From an Alpine village on the Austrian side of the border, he looked at his native Slovenia.

tn February 1995, be suffered a heavy stroke, from which be never recovered. "To become an artist, you must have a life rich with experience, British admirals, wartime a strong desire to express yourself, a will strong enough to carry out this desire, and . . . talent," be once said.

- Stevan Pavlowitch



Rapotec: 'To become an artist, you must have a life rich with experience'

BIRTHS. **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

BIRTHS

WEBB: Andy and Helen are proud to announce the birth of their son, James Henry, born 7 December, a little brother for Matthew.

DAINTON: Frederick Sydney (Lord Dainton of Hallam Moors), died in the John Radeliffe Hospital, Oxford, on 5 December, Funeral on Friday 1.2 December at the Oxford Cremator um at 2pm. No flowers by request but, it desired, contributions to Student Hardship Fund co the Vice-Chancellor, Sheffield University,

Announcements for BIRTHS, MAR-RIAGES & DEATHS should be sent in writing to the Gazetta Editor, The Indewriting to the Gazetta Editor, The Inde-pendent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 0111-293 2012 or faxed to 0171-793 2010 Charges are £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Changing of the Guard The Broscheld Carairy Monaced Regance: nion the Quart's Life thank at Horse Guards, 1 Jun.

Birthdays

Miss Joan Armatrading, singer, 47; Sir Nicholas Bonsor, former MP, 55; Mr Beau Bridges, actor, 56; Miss Su-san Bullock, soprano, 39; Sir John Burgh, former President, Trinity College, Oxford, 72; Dame Judi Dench. actress, 63; Mr Kirk Douglas, actor, 81; Mr Douglas Fairbanks
Jur. actor, 88; Miss Dawn Freedman, circuit judge, 55; Mr Benny Green, musician, writer and broadcaster, 70; Mr Geoffrey Hankins, former chairman, Fitch Lovell, 71; Mr Robert Hawke, former Prime Minister of Australia, 68; Professor Gabriel Horn, Master, Sidney Sussex Collège, Cambridge, 70: Dr Lionet Kopelow-itz, former President, Board of Deputies of British Jews, 71; Mr lan McIntyre, writer and broadcaster, 66; Sir Michael Mann, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, 67; Mr Donny Osmond, singer, 40; Miss Isobel Poole, Sheriff of the Lothian and Borders, 56; Lord Rees QC, former MP and Chief Secretary to the Treasury, 71; Mr David Rider, disc jockey, 57; Dame Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, operatic soprano, 82: Sir Peter Smithers lormer MP. 84; Miss Rita Stephen.

Anniversaries

Births: John Milton, poet, 1608; Johann Josephim Winckelmann, at historian, 1717; Prince Peter Alexevevich Kropotkin, Russian revolutionary and geographer, 1842; George Grossmith, actor, 1847; Joel Thandler Harris, creator of "Uncle Remus". 1848: Clarence Birdseve, inventor of the deep-freezing process. scientific writer, 1895; Hermione

former trade union leader. 72: Miss

oanna Trollope, author, 54.

Ferdinanda Gingold, actress and entertainer, 1898; Richard Austen Butler, Baron Butler of Saffron Walden, statesman, 1902. Deaths: Si Waiden, statesman, 1902. Deaths: Sir Anthony Van Dyck, painter, 1641; Edward Hyde, first Earl of Claren-don, statesman and historian, 1674; Joseph Bramah, locksmith and in-ventor of the hydraulie printing press, 1814; Dame Edith Sitwell, au-thor and poet, 1964. On this days the first execution took place in Newgate Prison. London, 1783; Richard Strauss's opera Salome was per-formed for the first time, Dresden 1905: an Arab rising in Palestine was violently put down by the Ottoman army, 1910; Jerusalem (held by the Turks) surrendered to General Allenby, 1917; the Eighth Army opened its offensive in North Africa by altacking Sidi Barrani, 1940; China declared war on Japan, Germany and traly, 1941; in Yugoslavia, Josip Tito formed his own government, 1943; the republic of indonesia was established, 1949; the first episode of anyika became independent. 1961, and a republic in 1962; Lech Walesa was elected president of Poland, 1990, Today is the Feast Day of St Budoc or Beuzec, St Gorgon

Lectures

Victoria and Albert Museum Angela Cox, "Victorian Paintings on the Grand Staircase", 2,30pm Tate Galtery: Oliver Collins, "Matisse's Siceves: the art of great figurative painting", 1pm. National Portrait Museum: Toba Mann, "Edith Sitwell: a second flowering 1939-64", t.10pm.

St Leocadia, St Peter Fourier and the

Seven Martyrs of Samosata.

LAW REPORT: 9 DECEMBER 1997

Patient could not claim against health authority

A patient to whom a district health authority owed a duty under section 17 of the Mental Health Act 1983 to provide after-care services following his discharge from detention under section 3 of the Act had no private law daim against the health authority for damages for negligence or breach of duty, and in any event public policy precluded him from making a claim which was based upon his own illegal act. Clunis v Camden and Islangton Health Authority: Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice) Potter and Mrs Justice Bracewell) 5 December 1997

The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal of Camden and Islington Health Authority plication to strike out a claim for negligence and breach of duty brought against them by Christopher Clunis. The plaintiff, who suffered

from a mental disorder, was discharged from bospital on 24 September 1992 after having been detained under section 3 of the Mental Health Act 1983. He moved into the area of a different bealth authority, and failed to attend two hospital appointments which had been made for him. The psychiatrist who had been designated as the responsible medical officer under section 118 of the 1983 Act arranged a mental-health assessment visit at the plaintiff's address, but he left before the

appointment, and on 17 December 1992 local social services told the psychiatrist that the police had called them to say that the plaintiff was "waying screwdrivers and knives against the refusal of their ap- and talking about devils", although the police appeared to have taken no action to remove him to a place of safety under section 136 of the 1983 Act. Later that day, in a sudden and

He failed to attend a further

unprovoked attack, the plaintiff stabbed and killed Jonathan Zito. He was charged with murder, and his plea of guilty to manslaughter on grounds of diminished responsibility was accepted. He was ordered to be detained in Rampton Hospital, subject to the special restriction in section 41 of the Act. Stephen Irwin QC and Jonatha

Glasson (Thanki Novi Taube) for the plaintiff; John Grace QC and Andrew Grubb (Beachcroft Stanleys) for the Lord Justice Beldam, giving

the judgment of the court, said that the plaintiff claimed that he bad suffered injury, loss and damage because the health authority had been negligent and responsible for breach of a duty of care at common law to treat him with reasonable professional care and skill. Had he been assessed before t7 December he would either have been detained or would patient, and would not have committed manslaughter. The court would be pre-

cluded from entertaining the

plaintiff's claim by the public policy (bat it would not lend its aid to a litigant who relied on his own criminal or immoral act, unless it could be said that he did not know the nature and quality of his act or that what he was doing was wrong. A plea of diminished responsibility accepted that the accused's mental responsibility was substantially impaired but it did not remove liability fur his criminal act. Since the plaintiff's case was essentially based on his illegal act of manslaughter, the appeal would be allowed on the ground of public policy.

The duty to provide aftercure arose under section 117 of the Mental Health Act 1983. The character of that duty seemed closely analogous to those described in X (Minors) 1 Bedfordshire County Council have consented to become a [1955] 2 AC 633 as requiring

exceptionally clear statutory language to show a parliamentary intention to create a private law cause of action for failure to carry them out. The wording of section 117 was not apposite to create such a cause of action.

The plaintiff had submitted that, in effect. the relationship of doctor and patient which had existed between himself and the health authority while he was in hospital had continued after discharge, so that a common law duly of care was owed to continue his treatment. The question whether a common law duty existed in parallel with the authority's statutory ubligations was profoundly influenced by the surrounding Statutory framework. The statutory duty to provide aftercare was different in nature from that of a doctor and a patient whom he was treating. The appeal would be allowed on that ground also.

- Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR, JEREMY WARNER NEWS DESK: 0171-293 2636 FAX: 0171-293 2098 E-MAIL: INDYBUSINESS@INDEPENDENT.CO.UK FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

Swiss deal prompts frenzy of bank bid speculation

Swiss banking giants UBS and SBC are to form the world's second largest bank in a multibillion pound merger, with the loss of 3,000 jobs in London alone. The City is already speculating about the next victims of the 'merger mania' affecting the financial services sector. Lea Paterson reports.

Following a week of feverish speculation. the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) and the Swiss Bank Corporation (SBC) confirmed yesterday that they planned to merge. About 3,000 of the 13,000 worldwide job losses will be in London - more than previously anticipated. "The people most likely to be hit are in equities and corporate finance." commented one analyst.

Under the terms of the deal, UBS will be folded into SBC. The new bank, to be called the United Bank of Switzerland, will e second in terms of asset size only to the Bank of Japan-Mitsubishi (see table), with combined assets of £358hn, tt will also be the world's largest money manager, with 1.32 trillion Swiss francs (£555hn) in assets under management.

The link-up was prompted by the desire not to lose out in the ongoing consolidation in world financial services. SBC/UBS said: "Ongoing globalisation and deregulation of the international financial markets, tougher global competition and the resulting world-wide wave of consolidation in the financial services industry have made size an increasingly critical factor."

Marcel Ospel, currently SBC's chief executive and chief executive-designate of the new bank, was keen to dispel any notion that he was out to shut down UBS's London operation. After the merger, the new bank will have a combined London staff of around 3,000, about half the current total. But Mr Ospel stressed that there would be redundancies on both sides. He said: "We will take the best people. It is not a question of going to zero on one side."

Mr Ospel also denied that large chunks of UBS, notably the equities business, were now up for sale. Though he admitted that

said: "It [the sale of parts of UBS] is not part of the integrated strategy we have on the table today." UBS's equities division has been linked with a variety of potential bidders. including US investment bank JP Morgan.

Recruitment specialists yesterday advised worried UBS and SBC employees not to panic. Peter Newton, director of the LNI Group, an IT and recruitment consultancy. said: The labour market is relatively buoyant at the moment, and these are both top-tier investment banks, with a high calibre of people."

But further, widely anticipated, consolidation in the financial services sector



could lead to "blood on the streets". Mr Newton warned: "If we see more mergers or more bank failures.... it would become a buyer's market,"

Source: The Banker, Pro Jorma figures

UBS/SBC said yesterday it was "conscious of its social responsibility to its staff members and will handle these redundancies as sensitively and fairly as possible". The banks bave set aside £2.5bn Swiss francs (£1.05bn) for redundancy costs.

Most analysis yesterday subscribed to the view of UBS/SBC that hig was beautiful, but also felt that difficult domestic conditions the bank would consider serious offers, be in over-banked Switzerland lay behind the

decision to merge. John Leonrad, banking analyst at Salomon Smith Barney, said: "We see two primary drivers - cost savings in the over-banked Swiss branch banking market, and the search for critical mass in the global investment banking sector.'

Switzerland has one bank per 2,000 people - around twice the ratio in the US. Post merger, up to 400 Swiss bank branches will sbut. Pieder Signorell, the secretarygeneral of the Swiss trade union which represents bank staff, described the merger as "complete madness" because of the proposed size of the joh cuts.

The UBS/SBC link-up is the latest in a string of "mega-mergers" in the financial services industry. In June, Morgan Stanley and Dean Witter completed their \$11bn merger, and last month, Travelers Group completed the \$9.3hn takeover of Salomon Brothers. More recently, Merrill Lynch offered £3.1bn for Mercury Asset Management.

Yesterday's news prompted speculation about the next link-up in European banking. Shares in Barclays Bank and National Westminster Bank, which are understood to have had informal merger talks, soared. NatWest closed up 58p at 998p. Barclays closed up 27p at 1573p.

Under the terms of the deal, Warburgs, perhaps one of the most distinguished names in British investment banking, will not disappear into the history books. Though the newly formed United Bank of Switzerland will be headquartered in Zurich, investment banking will be run out of London under the name of Warburg Dillon Read. The new bank's institutional asset management division, to be called the Brinson division, will be run from Chicago. Gary Brinson presently heads up SBC's asset management arm and will become boss of UBS's maverick fund manager Tony Dye.

Experts predicted the merger was unlikely to run into regulatory difficulties in Europe, hut regulatory burdles in Switzerland may prove more tricky.

UBS and SBC estimate the merger, once completed, will result in annual cost savings of SFr3-4bn, but that restructuring costs would wipe out their combined profits this financial year. Under the terms of the merger UBS sbareholders will hold 60 per cent of the new company.



Barclays set to link up with other cashpoints

Barclays Bank is poised to follow the Royal Bank of Scotland by striking a deal with other banks and building societies allowing its customers to withdraw money from all but a handful of the UK's 22,000 cashpoint machines. Andrew Yotes reports on a banking revolution which is likely to open up the network to every account

holder in the country.

Tired, weighed down with shopping and out of money you finally find a cash point machine, only to discover that it doesn't take your card and you face a long walk to the other end of the high street to get the money you need to get bome. An all too familiar story, but one that is set to become a thing of the past. Huge demand from customers is forcing Britain's banks to allow account

Top executives at Barclays are due to the others standing back for long." meet shortly to discuss plans to do just that. Sources say Barclays is likely to go ahead of Scotland's initiative, which caught the industry on the hop.

Link, the building society cash point network, confirmed that it was in talks with Barclays and the other banks that do not is unclear whether Barclays will charge customers for using Link machines. NatWest, which recently teamed up with Link, charges customers 60p for each withdrawal.

If Barclays does open up its network Midland Bank and Lloyds TSB, the other high street banking giants, will almost certainly have to fall into linc.

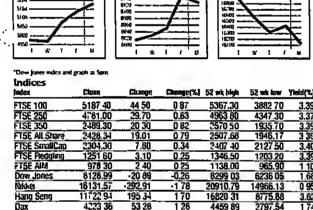
The creation of a unified banking network is only a matter of time according to industry experts. Harry Hay, the man behind Royal Bank's new initiative, believes Outlook, page 21 bolders to use any cash machine they want. us a distinct competitive edge. I can't see up paying for the privilege.

The changes will prompt a revolution in the services on offer, according to lan with the move in the wake of Royal Bank Buxton, a consultant at NCR, which makes more four in every five UK cash points. He believes that customers could soon be able to order foreign currency, arrange a loan or even find out how much they would be allowed to borrow to huy a bouse simply currently use its network about a tie-up. It by popping their card in a machine as banks desperately try to hold on to their customers by adding new facilities.

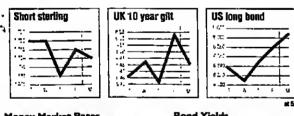
Intense competition among UK banks saw them develop their own cash point networks, a situation almost unique in Europe. Now pressure from customers and demand for more machines in places such as railway stations and petrol forecourts has forced the main banks to reconsider.

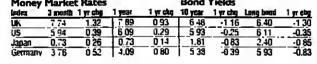
The creation of one network will prompt a buge industry shake-up. Mr Hay predicts that private companies could end up running machines for the hanks. However, other banks are bound to follow. "This gives as in America, customers could well end

STOCK MARKETS



INTEREST RATES

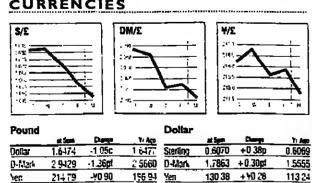




MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Prica (ji)	(برز وحد	% Dige	Falls	Price (p)	(14) gell	% Chigo
Felawest Com	9_50	6.50	8.90	Yule Catto & Co	274 50		
	651 00	_50,00_	8.32	GenaccidentPLC			-6.19
Eng China Clavs	285 50	20 00	7.53	Blue Circle Inds	32B 50		6 14
Hardy Oil & Gas	279.00	18.00	6.90	8:ocompatibles	630 00	-25.00	- 3.82

CURRENCIES



OTHER INDICATORS

1129	90 380	109 7	Jan
159 5	50 37	153 81	Nov
Fates			
			Rates 7.25 6.00 source: Bloon

BT to get the go-ahead to take full control of Cellnet

Industry is poised to give British Telecom the go-ahead to take full control of Celinet, the UK's second largest mobile phone network in which it has a 60 per cent stake. But as Chris Godsmark, Business Correspondent, reports, BT's current intentions towards Cellnet could be more cautious than in previous years.

Since its launch alongside arch-rival Vodafone in 1985. Cellnet has been owned by BT and Securioor, which has a 40 per cent stake in the mobile operator. A previous attempt by BT

The Department of Trade and to huy out Securicor in 1995 was vised by Oftel, the telecoms watchdog, blocked by Michael Heseltine, then President of the Board of Trade, on competition grounds.

Sources close to the DTI said officials had reconsidered the ownership structure of Cellnet and now saw no objections to BT owning the entire nethave changed its view of competition in the UK mobile market since 1995. with the growth of the two all-digital networks, One 2 One and Orange.

Last night Barbara Roche, the minister responsible for telecoms, declined to comment on Cellnet. The existing share structure is enshrined in Cellnet's operating licence, which could not be changed without the consent of the Secretary of state.

The DTI has been informally ad-

BT. Don Cruickshank, the telephones regulator, is thought to bave lobbied against the move two years ago, at the beight of his battles with BT over market dominance. However, Mr Cruickwork. The department is thought to optimistic view of UK competition. with Orange and Onc 2 One this year accounting for well over half the growth in mobile customers.

He has struck a much more cona recent speech predicted the group's overall share of the UK market would drop to 50 per cent by 2000. Oftel's latest forecast said BT would control 70 per cent of domestic phone lines by the same date, down from more than 90 per cent today.

UK, Germany and France

back defence consolidation

that it would not oppose the move by ment, which could come early in the new year, would depend on BT's strategy towards Cellnet. Though BT has made no secret of its long-term aim of integrating its fixed phone services with a mobile offering from Cellnet, shank now takes a much more privately the company has played down an early approach.

In February Sir Peter Bonfield, BT chief executive, said the group would only huy Cellnet in "a good financial deal". Analysis yesterday put a valuciliatory tone with BT this year and in ation of about £4on on Cellnet, putting a £1.6bn price tag on Securicor's 40 per cent stake.

Another consideration could be the continuing concern over Cellnet's trading prospects, after a disappointing year in which its growth rate has slowed sharply. By the end of Sep-

below Vodafone's 3.1 million, but its share of overall market growth has slumped this year.

BT has already moved to strengthen its grip over Cellnet's management, appointing Ray Smith, its consumer products manager, as managing director, following the abrupt resignation this year of Howard Ford.

Separately yesterday it emerged that Orange, the newest of the four mobile operators, has claimed victory over Vodafone in the battle to build the higgest network.

Orange now has 3,350 base stations which receive and transmit signals, compared with about 3,200 for Vodafone. The network roll-out is the fruit of Orange's £800m investment programme over the next year.

Dow Jones to merge television channel with CNBC

Dow Jones and CNBC are today expected to announce a merger of their TV operations in Europe and Asia. The move, which has been in the pipeline for some time, will see European Business News and CNBC Europe, the 24-hour business TV channels, fusing into a single entity.

Dow Jones, owner of the Wall Street Journal. has a 70 per cent stake in EBN. Flextech, the cable and satellite programmer, has the remaining shareholding. Flextech is to retain its interest. but as a passive investor with no further funding obligations. Flextecb said in August that it planned to save £4m a year by discontinuing its

investment in EBN. Dow Jones also owns Asia Business News, which is likely to form part of the new entity. Both CNBC Europe and EBN are understood to make big losses. Some elements of the Bancroft family, which controls Dow Jones, have reponedly expressed concern at the resources. European defence grouping. soaked up by the group's international TV husiness. EBN, which launched two years ago. features programmes such as Your Money, a per- tween the main players in each

three times a week in French. CNBC Europe set up a year later than EBN. and runs programmes like European Money Wheel and FT Business Tonight. Financial Times Tele to point to the progress the civil vision (FT-TV) recently laid off more than 50 staff aircraft manufacturer Airbus Inin anticipation of the loss of its daily program- dustric is making in restructurming contract with CNBC Europe. EBN is ingitself as a possible model for expected to replace FT-TV's programmes.

The British, French and German governments will today throw their weight behind a threeway consolidation of their defence industries to enable Europe to compete with the handful of giant military suppliers emerging in the US. Michael Harrison reports.

industry and defence ministers from the three countries will urge their arms manufacturers to restructure in what could be the prelude to the creation of a pan-

Although there will be no announcements of any mergers besonal finance show; and Media Report, a media country, the governments are news hulletin. The channel broadcasts in Eng- expected to say that they would lish and German, with a half-hour programme be fully supportive of any such moves to rationalise and strengthen Europe's defence sector.

> Ministers are also expected what could hannen in defence. Margaret Beckett, President

of the Board of Trade, and George Robertson, Secretary of State for Defence, will issue a joint statement in London supporting further cross-border defence mergers, but stressing that the onus is very much on the industries themselves to put together deals. Mr Robertson recently told a seminar of defence manufacturers at the MoD that the choice was "consolidate or die".

British Aerospace (BAe), the country's leading defence company, has long been pressing for the creation of a pan-European defence and aerospace group encompassing everything from civil aircraft and helicopters to missiles, weapon systems and fighter aircraft. Last month it acguired Siemens Defence Electronics in partnership with Daimler-Benz of Germany. It also has a joint missiles venture in France with Matra, part of the Lagardere group.

GEC, which owns the defence electronics husiness Marconi, has also been in the forefront of companies pressing for further rationalisation. Both BAe and GEC were unsuccessful in bidding for Thomson CSF, prompting speculation that the French

were reluctant to take part in a European-wide restructuring.

However, the French Defence Minister, Alain Richard. said in Paris yesterday that the three main Airbus partners -Britain, France and Germany could put their defence interests together in the next two to three years. This could then form the focal point for a secand phase of consolidation involving Spain. Italy and Sweden.

The four Airbus partners are BAe. Aerospatiale, Daimler-Benz and Casa of Spain. They are already collaborating on the Future Large Aircraft programme, a military transporter, while BAe and Daimler are partners in the Eurofighter project.

Analysis have speculated that BAe may ultimately take over Daimler's defence interests and then bring other manufacturers such as Saab into a wider alliance. There remains uncertainty as to what form a combined Europewide defence group would take. There might be friction over its ownership, with Mr Richard suggesting that the French government would retain a stake of up to 40 per cent should BAc. Aerospatiale and Daimler merge.

Government rules out launch aid for new Airbus jet

The Government has ruted out providing British Aerospace with £120m in launch aid towards the development of a new long-range Airbus jet.

An announcement about the decision is imminent although it is still not clear whether ministers will sweeten the pill by agreeing to slow down the rate of launch aid repayments on earlier Airbus programmes.

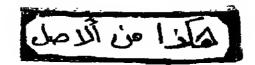
The four Airbus partners yesterday formally launched the \$2.9bn (£1.76bn) programme to build the A340-500/600 series, a 375 seat aircraft which will compete with the Boeing 747 jumbo jet.

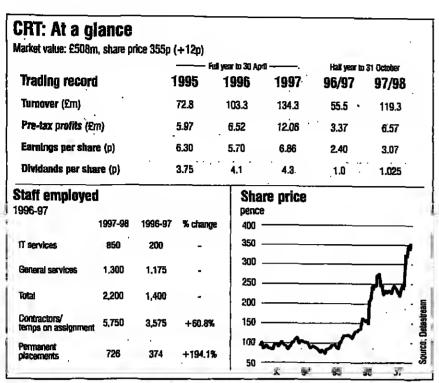
BAe, which has a 20 per cent stake in Airbus and makes the wings, said it had given the three other members of the consortium a commitment that it would fund its share of the development costs. These are in the region of £360m.

The company also indicated that if government support was not forthcoming it would seek to bave some of the work carried out by risk and revenue sharing partners overseas. "We would hold discussions with suppliers and industrial partners to see if all or part of the launch costs could be offset in the event that government funds are not forthcoming," said a spokesman.

Airbus has launch orders for more than 100 of the new A340 aircraft worth \$13hn from at least seven airlines. Among the customers are Virgin Atlantic, Lufthansa, Air Canada, Egyptair and Eva Airlines of Taiwan. Rolls-Royce has won engine orders worth \$4bn from the launch customers for a new version of its Trent engine which is being developed with £200m of government launch aid.

– Michael Harrison





CRT recruits Wolffolins for new look

the company that dreamt up Diageo, the ghastly new name for Guinness/Grand Metropolitan, may make investors in the IT recruiter sweaty. After all, not everything in black and white makes sense. But Karl Chapman, chief executive of the fastgrowing training and recruitment group, insists that CRT's new identity, to be unveiled next May, will go down a treat.

Gathering CRT's many brands under one logo will be more marketable to customers rapidly shrinking the number of their staff suppliers to a few, choice names, he says. Mr Chapman is worth listening to. He floated CRT in 1989 capitalised at £400,000 and worth 40p a share. Today it is valued at over £500m after yesterday's 12p rise to 355p on half-year profits more than doubled and 25 per cent like-for-like growth. Not bad for a group which makes 70 per cent of its profits in the second half.

CRT's success lies largely in Mr Chapman's controversial decision to link arms with Michael Milken, jailbird and junk bond dealer, and Oracle, whose KU group bought

Allders shares look Yule's bid fails to like a bargin

look Allders. Shorn of the duty-free operation suitor for Holliday Chemicals, and investors sold to Swiss Air last summer, the department were not impressed. Yule shares plunged store retailer has started to look a simpler more than 10 per cent to 274.5p, dragging and more attractive investment. As a result, down the value of the cash and shares bid the City has begun to re-rate the shares, which to about 229p per Holliday share. have risen from 178p at the beginning of the According to Alex Walker, Yule's chief year to 237p, up 8p yesterday. And on the executive, this is a classic case of the City evidence of yesterday's full-year figures and failing to see the strategic merits of a deal. an upbeat trading statement, the re-rating has Hc argues that the speciality chemicals a way to go yet.

rose 59 per cent to £18.8m, excluding the not be closed, huge numbers of people will exceptional gain from the duty free sale in not be laid off - this deal will give Yule distast year's numbers. Like-for-like sales, tribution and marketing clout. Its portfolio which were ahead by 12 per cent in the year, of polymers, flavours and fragrances will also have remained strong in current trading, sit well alongside Holliday's pharmaceutical running 9 per cent higher. With a focus on chemicals like ranitidine, the generic version home furnishings, the strengthening housing of Glaxo's Zantac ulcer drug. market has helped Allders. Its sales of furniture and beds, for example, rose 30 per which is currently worth £280m. The comcent on the year before.

by over-exposure in the South-east, but this management can bandle it. Another worry has been rectified with the acquisition of eight is the balance sheet. Pro-forma figures for Owen Owen stores for £23m last year.

creased sharply and there is more to go for. though that will be more like five to six times The seven Maples stores acquired from the when the deal goes through. Given Holliday receivers for £3.8m in September have al- shares were worth 119p, just half the current ready been re-branded under the Allders and bid price, as recently as February, questions Allders at Home facias.

In the department stores, Allders wants to increase the penetration of higher margin, other bid may emerge. But that is unlikely, own-hrand ranges from 7 per cent of group and even so a rival suitor would not bave to sales to 20 per cent. Its in-house fashion label offer much of a premium to the prevailing will be extended to all branches in the share price. Investors with Holliday shares spring and a more classic fashion label will should sell them in the market. And with Yule

discount to the sector. Buy.

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The C the E same of Fall of Fa

That CRT is being rebranded by Wolffolins, a controlling stake in CRT last autumn. That gave CRT £109m cash to expand just when the shortage in computer programmers was starting to get serious. With £50m of KU's cash still left and plenty of private UK consultancies to buy, Mr Chapman believes CRT will be a multi-hillion pound company within five years. He also plans to take CRT into non-IT areas, though he won't yet say what.

Plans for rapid expansion and diversification warrant caution. While IT recruitment is relatively counter-cyclical, a move into a new area could expose the company to economic swings. A combination of rebranding and a heady period of acquisitions may also strain CRT's open and flexible small company culture. However, CRT does need to build an international presence to service the global needs of its customers.

CRT is likely to fund acquisitions with equity. Another KU investment is possible. However, prices of IT companies are rising and bargains, even in the private sector, must be gerting harder to find. Analysts are forecasting £20.4m for the full year. On a heady 36 times, take profits.

cheer investors

It has been a good year for the new, slim- Yule Catto yesterday emerged as the mystery

industry is going global. Although there are Operating profits on continuing businesses no obvious cost-cutting henefits - plants will

Still, at £237m this is a big hite for Yule, pany has never done an acquisition this size. Allders was tripped up in the recession and there must be doubts over whether the last year show the combined group would Sales densities and margins have in- have had interest cover of just over four times.

should also be asked about Yule's timing. With the value of Yule's offer sliding, an-Catto likely to be on probation for at least On forecast profits of £25m, the shares 12 months, its shareholders should think trade on a forward rating of just 11. a huge seriously about putting their money elsewhere for the time being.

British Midland set to double profits despite low-cost rivals

British Midland yesterday shrugged off the challenge from the new low-cost, no-frills carriers by predicting that profits would more than double to £15m this year. The airline also confirmed it would start flying from Heathrow to Manchester next year in competition with British Alrways and Virgin Trains' 'indifferent' rail service.

Michoel Horrison reports.

The sharp rise in profits this year from £0.1m in 1996 has been achieved despite fierce competition from a number of low-cost airlines on British Midland's domestic and European routes. Passenger numbers in the

first 10 months of the year were up by 7 per cent to 5.1 million and sales were In per cent higher at £452m. About £3m of the profits increase was due to the strike over the summer by BA cabin crew. Sir Michael Bishop, British

Midland's chairman, said he had no interest in launching a low-cost airline as BA has done

and forecast that half the nofrilts airlines now operating could fail.

Referring to Ryanair, Easy-Jei, Debonair and Virgin Express, he said: "Only one [Rvanair] is truly financially successful and how many more the market can take with BA starting up will be interesting to see. I think it will follow the US pattern. One or two will make it and the rest will find it difficult to make a meaningful return on their investment."

Sir Michael also criticised the rail service on the West Coast Mainline provided by Richard Branson's Virgin

Trains, predicting that British Midland would make hig inroads into the London-Manchester market hefore Virgin had introduced its new fleet of high-speed trains.

British Midland will start flying eight times daily to Manchester from 29 March next year and is promising to undercut BA's business class fare by £20. A three-day husiness return will cost £178 and economy fares will start at £59.

We are responding to the strongest possible representations made to us by commerce and industry in the North-west that the present situation of an

indifferent rail service and a monopoly air route to London is harming the competitiveness of this important region of the UK," said Sir Michael.

BA flies just under 1 million passengers a year between Heathrow and Manchester hut together with other services from Gatwick, Stansted and London City, the airline market is reckoned to be nearer 1.5 million. Including rail passengers, the overall travel market is about 3 million a year. British Midland is aiming to take about 25 per cent of the market in the first year, rising to 35-40 per cent after two years on the route.

Christie's ends talks with 'bidder'

Auction house Christie's International, said yesterday that it bad ended talks with a possihle hidder, claiming the proposals were not in the best interests of sharebolders'. Shares in Christie's closed a penny higher at 250.5p; significantly ahead of their 12-month low of 224.5p last month.

Christie's did not disclose the identity of the bidder. However, some City sources suggested the management might have been interested. Meanwhile, there has been long running speculation that the Bahamas-based investor Joe Lewis, who holds a 29 per cent stake in Christie's, may be interested in making an offer for the remainder. At yesterday's closing price Christie's would be valued at £390m.

Mr Lewis, a reclusive entrepreneur has built a reputation as a canny investor. He bought a 25 per cent stake in Glasgow Rangers, the Scottish foolball club, earlier this year.

Christie's has had a good run recently. Last year its auction house sales of just over £1bn were higher than Sotheby's for the first time in 40 years. In July it announced half-year sales of



Christie's did not disclose the identity of the suitor but said that the proposals were not in the interests of shareholders £557m, a rise of 15 per cent.

Liberty rebels seek Energis shares board's surrender

Regent Street retailer, are trying to persuade the board to concede defeat ahead of the planned emergency general meeting on Thursday.

Liherty family and Bryan Myerson, the South African investor, who are proposing 10 oust the group's chairman Denis Cassidy, say the meeting is no longer necessary as they already have the backing of more than balf the sharebolders.

The rebels claim the outcome has been decided by the apparent decision of the Merchant Navy Pension fund, which has a 3 per cent stake, either to abstain or vote against the board. Either outcome would be a big setback for the board as the Stewart-Liberty family, together with Mr Myerson, already account for 47 per cent of the votes. The family also claims that other institutions may also abstain or

vote in their favour. Odile Griffith, the family's financial representative said yesterday: "The hoard must realise we've won. We have been asking to meet with the executive directors for some time and we would like to do so at the

COMPANY RESULTS

Rebel investors in Liberty, the first opportunity. Normally these things are not discussed in pub-

lic meetings or via the press." Last week the hoard claimed it had won the support of 34 per cent of shareholders. The founding Stewart- It said yesterday that it would not concede defeat ahead of the meeting. "Nothing is lost until the votes are cast. The egm is still going ahead."

If the rebels succeed in ousting Mr Cassidy, the company faces the prospect of losing all its advisers, who bave threatened to resign and the possible loss of the two executive and US. directurs who have said they may find themselves in an untenable position.

The Stewart-Liberty family have been unhappy with Mr Cassidy's management style and plans to spend £43m on the re-development of the flagship Liberty store on London's Regent Street.

The battle has been a messy affair including a spilt between various hranches of the Liherty family. While the Stewart-Libertys formed a concert party with Mr Myerson to oust the chairman, three other hranches of the family threw their backing behind the board. Nigel Cope

490.9m (755.9m) 23.1m (40.4m) 21.7p (17.1p) 5.0p (8.0p)

Carcle Enghaming (1) 91.7m (74.01m) 8.06m (7 12m) 9 4p (8.1p) 3.44p (3 44p)

Electronic Data Proc. (F) 12.56m (14.26m) 1.7m (2.5m) 4.50p (6.64p) 2.20p (2.20p)

143 8m (128m) 14.0m (10.85m) 38.2p (31.4p) 7.17p (12.1p)

119.3m (55.49m) 6.57m (3.37m) 3 07p (2.40p) 1.025p (1.00p)

13 42m (11 54m) | 0 340m (0.212m) | 1.97p (1.21p) | 1.97p (1.21p)

128.3m (119.4m) 12.66m (4.41m) 10.2p (5.5p) 2.5p (1.6p)

3.99m (3.44m) 0.279m (0.0052m) 6.84p (1.29p) nil [-)

27 49m (7.57m) 0.506m (0.618m) 3.1p (5.7p) nl (-)

106.5m (91.4m) 15.82m (14 69m) 12 7p (13 17p) 3 0p (2.7p)

38.62m (37.67m) 0.855m (0.776m) 2.96p (3.11p) 2.5p (3.5p)

4.3m (13.2m) 12.0m (3.0m) 16.2p (3.5p) nl (-)

priced below 300p for début

Shares in Energis, the business telecoms group owned by National Grid, will be priced well below the 300p barrier, valuing the company at around £900m. when they begin trading on the stock market this afternoon.

Executives from the two companies, led by David Jones, the Grid's chief executive, and Mike Grahiner, chief executive of Energis, set the conservative flotation price last night after a marathon marketing effort to potential investors in the UK

The flotation is expected to value each Energis share at about 290p, compared with an anticipated range of hetween 250p and 325p. Analysts last night suggested the share offer had been threc-times oversubscribed after the bookbuilding process, but pointed to stronger interest from the US than the UK

The Grid is selling 26 per cent of Energis' share capital in a complex arrangement, but could lift this 10 almost 30 per cent depending on demand. Today's price would raise enough proceeds to pay off a £205m debt from Energis to the parent company.

The likely final float price is a blow to hopes that Energis might float closer to the £960m. top of the valuation range. But it will be hailed by the Grid as a vindication of its original decision to invest £480m in the venture, which wraps telephone wires around power cables.

Energis has been boosted by the Government's U-turn in Brussels last week over the UK system of telecoms competition. Ministers have agreed to adopt an European Union directive which would allow homes in the UK to nominate a rival carrier of choice to BT.

Though Energis is not expected to enter the residential market, it could gain more traffic on its network from other operators after 2000, when the directive comes into force. - Chris Godsmork

Late payers face bigger interest penalty

Small husinesses bave won an important victory in their battle against late payment by convincing the Government to allow them to charge an interest rate of 8 per cent over base rate on unpaid invoices. According to industry sources, the interest rate will be specified in the Government's late payment hill, which will be introduced to Parliament later this week. The Government had originally suggested a rate of 4 per cent over base rate.

Small businesses argued a statutory right to interest should he set sufficiently high to provide an effective deterrent for late payers. To avoid abuse by large companies, the legislation will initially only apply to small businesses pursuing claims from larger firms. After two years, it will be extended to small firms claiming from each other, before being made universal after a further two years. - Peter Thal Larsen

Hilton wins Cardiff contract

Hilton, the botel giant, has fought off Sheraton, Inter-Continental and Westin to win a contract to run the first fivestar hotel to be huilt in Cardiff. The new botel, situated in the heart of the City overlooking Cardiff Castle, will have 200 rooms, the largest ballroom in the area and a health and fitness centre. It will rival Sir Rocco Forte's new luxury botel development in Cardiff Bay. TB1, the property and airports group which runs Cardiff airport, is developing the new hotel which will open its doors in 1999, in time to house visitors to the Rugby World Cup.

BT price claims allowed

A High Court judge yesterday lifted an injunction preventing BT releasing a report claiming its prices for small business customers were tower than those offered by Cable & Wireless Communications (CWC). BT's research, which covered 200,000 businesses with typical quarterly bills of less than £100, had claimed its overall prices were 4.7 per cent below the lowest prices offered by CWC, a claim its rival had disputed. CWC will tomorrow launch an advertising campaign claiming it has netted 135,000 small business customers, though it will not directly claim that its prices are cheaper.

Jarvis wins rail work

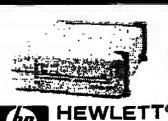
Jarvis, the acquisitive railway maintenance group, has been awarded three contracts by Railtrack worth a maximum £490m over five years. The contracts were awarded by Railtrack to Fastline and Relayfast, the track renewals businesses that Jarvis bought for £55m in July. The announcement came as Jarvis announced a threefold rise in pre-tax profits, to £12.7m from £4.4m, for the six months to September. The shares gained

Marston expansion on track

Marston, Thompson & Evershed, the brewing and puh group, confirmed it was on track to have 50 Pitcher & Piano outlets trading by the end of 2000, despite having experienced delays in openings over the last six months. Pre-tax profits rose to £15.8m (£14.7m) for the six months to September thanks to a strong performance from the Pitcher and Piano chain and a rise in sales of Pedigrec beer which offset falls

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WHITE STATE



OUTLOOK ON CONSOLIDATION, IN BANKING AND DEFENCE, AND THE STATE OF THE UK STOCK MARKET

Swiss merger is no blueprint for Britain

is not quite a Eurosceptic, but he is a leading husiness opponent of the single currency, which he thinks could prove economically disastrous for Europe. That doesn't seem to have stopped him and his allies marshalling the arguments of monetary union in favour of allowing Barclays to takeover National Westminster Bank. He'll be at it afresh now that Union Bank of Switzerland has agreed merger terms with Swiss Bank Corporation to create what on most measures is the world's second-largest hank. If the Swiss are allowed to do it, why not us, he'll be asking government ministers.

Underlying the creation of this new Swiss banking behemoth is the perceived need to respond to and prepare for greater European union. The single currency ought to create a much more compentive and transparent European market in capital and financial services. This in turn creates further pressure for cost cutting and mergers, both domestic and cross border.

There is a certain irony in the fact that Switzerland is not part of the European Union, nor does it have any intention of joining the single currency. None the less, both banks have extensive operations throughout Europe, including the City, where they have competing investment banking operations. Both banks also fear they might fall prey to a foreign predator if they don't merge with a more friendly

Exactly the same thought process plagues Martin Taylor and his counterparts

Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays, elsewhere in the UK banking sector. Bar-economy of 60 million people. Do we really clays and Nat West rank only number 19 and 20 in the world in terms of assets, and individually they will amount to little more than half the size of the unimaginatively renamed United Bank of Switzerland. If commodity banking, like other industries, is going to become dominated in the single market by just three to four hig players, then what chance do these two and others have of surviving as independents?

This, however, is where the argument rather runs out of legs, for in truth the Swiss bank merger lends only very superficial support to the case for allowing Barclays and NatWest to merge. For a start, Switzerland is a country of just 8 million people. Its most famous exports are the cuckoo clock and the Swiss army knife. Even its skiing industry isn't much cop these days. When things get tough, it adjusts its workforce by throwing out the immigrants.

Switzerland's success as an economy, and that of her banks, is an international one. In Switzerland, it is genuinely possible to make the argument that the creation of national champions in the international arena should be allowed to override all domestic competition concerns. That's one of the reasons why Switzerland has become home to so many leading multinationals and so much international capital.

The same case cannot be made for Britain, with its much larger and more vibrant domestic market place. Barclays and Nat West already have market shares in small business and credit-card lending which might be considered unhealthy for a large terparts.

want to give them even greater power? In recent years, both banks have been poor at product innovation and in customer service. In all yesterday's global banking speak and Swiss cost cutting zeal, there was not a single mention of what this merger might do for the customer. We can expect even less if Barclays were to consummate

its desires by merging with NatWest.
The Government should put a stop to the fevered imaginings of our leading bankers by making a clear and unambiguous statement that further large scale domestic consolidation in the banking sector will not be tolerated. If there are any bankers who really believe in the Eurodimension, they should have the courage of their convictions and attempt a crossborder merger. Now why does that possibility seem just so unlikely?

Strategic concerns disarm the French

The need for Europe's defence industries to rationalise is finally beginning to receive some political impetus, even though the structure of what may emerge is still a long way off the radar screen. Today the defence and industry ministers of Britain, France and Germany will present a united front in calling for their respective arms manufacturers to restructure or face annihilation at the hands of American coun-

Checkily, the French nipped in a day early with a sighting shot yesterday from their Defence Minister, Alain Richard. He suggests that the restructuring might be modelled on the corporate makeover now being undertaken at the civil aircraft manufacturer Airbus. Can this possibly be the same country that has resolutely said "non" to any foreign involvement in the

restructuring of its own defence sector? Improbably, this does indeed seem to be the case. The French have become converts to the cause of pan-European defence consolidation having realised that the alternative is to be outflanked by an Anglo/ German pincer movement. The joint (though doomed) bid by British Aerospace and Daimler for Thomson-CSF was one early warning. Another was the BAe/

Daimler acquisition of Siemens Defence.
With the French now on board, the idea of consolidation moves from the wish list to the drawing board. But given the mix of chauvinism and secrecy that goes with defence procurement, merging Europe's defence industries remains a daunting task.

Hangover due in the new year

Everything is for the best in the best of all possible worlds. That appears to be the philosophy of Anglo-Saxon financial markets, at any rate. Both the Dow and the FTSE 100 index are heading back towards their record peaks, while the US and UK

government bond markets are on an im-

proving trend once more. Crisis in Asia? So what, Growth will be made to slow a hit, but that's just what the doctor ordered. The financial turmoil of the last two months has made for a healthy correction in the more exuberant markets. Global deflation? It's the fashionable bogeyman for analysts to fret about, but it also still has the mythical status of a monster under the bed. Investors don't expect it to reach out and grah them by the ankles.

Investors on the whole continue to believe inflation will stay low and corporate profits healthy. There are plenty of reasons for optimism but for the dirty realists amongst us, it is all too good to be true. One niggling worry is that the Bank of England thinks it will hit its inflation target only if growth slows sharply next year - and it has a relatively optimistic inflation forecast. That doesn't square with the outlook for profits implied by the rising FISE 100. Another issue is the monstrous success of the US job-creation machine. It is starting to trigger higher pay growth, and this has not been factored into profits forecasts either.

Something will give, and it is more likely to be rosy growth than low inflation. A straw in the wind was the latest Merrill Lynch survey of fund managers, showing the greatest interest in selling rather than huying equities for well over a year. Watch out for another puncture in the bubble of stock market optimism in the

High-street sales show signs of economy cooling down

The strong pound has tightened its squeeze on manufacturing industry, while the retail spending boom might just be tailing off. The latest evidence suggests that the economy is finally starting to cool down. Diane Coyle, Economics Editor, finds few analysts expecting more than one further rise in interest

until the last minute what Christmas sales will be like." said Andrew Higginson, chair-Consortium's (BRC) economic affairs committee.

survey, like a similar one from the Confederation of British Industry last week, reported a slowdown in the growth of high street sales last month. Festive spending has got off to a slow start hecause Christmas Day falls on a Thursday, leaving more last minute shopping

Mr Higginson said anecdotal evidence from the first week of

picture is that sales are definitely slowing down."

of sales up 4.4 per cent in the year to November, only half the previous month's figure, and the weakest since April 1996. Spending is climbing at a slower pace than earlier in the year, no

straws in the wind indicating tion to 1.9 per cent. that higher interest rates are ride because we will not know cooling the feverish pace of spending growth.

At the same time, official statistics revealed a surprise man of the British Retail fall in manufacturing output last month, "One month's decline does not make a recession, but The BRC's latest monthly it does point to a very patchy outlook," said Ciaran Barr, an economist at Deutsche Morgan

> the subdued state of industry. and surveys hinting at a slowdown in the high street, many analysts were predicting the Bank of England would be satisfied with one more rise in the cost of borrowing in the new year. David Hillier at Barclays

December pointed to a pick-up. Capital said: "The new year pay But he said: "The hroader round will still be very important for the Bank's calculations but the slowdown in growth The survey showed the value could be very sharp."

Other experts reckon the slowdown will be less dramatic, but even so, few think interest rates will climb much further.

Manufacturing production fell 0.2 per cent in November, longer fuelled by the windfall of . taking the annual growth rate free building society shares. -- to 1-3 per cent. Total industrial While neither the BRC nor output, which also includes the CBI survey provides an ac-curate month-by-month guide to the official figures for retail sales volumes, they join other annual growth edged up a frac-

> export-oriented sector, remained the strongest performer. But its output was flat during the month, and the annual growth rate slowed. Other industries exposed to the strong pound, such as textiles and chemicals, were also weaker.

Separate figures for prices manufacturers paid for materials and charged at the factory With new figures confirming gate confirmed there was no sign of inflationary pressure in industry thanks to the squeeze from the strong pound. Input prices fell 1.9 per cent in November, driven by sharp falls in oil and food prices, to a level 8.3 per cent lower than a year earlier.

BREITLING ORBITER 2

CHÂTEAU-D'OEX · SWITZERLAND · WINTER 97/98

BERTRAND PICCARD WIM VERSTRAETEN ANDY ELSON

Right from the next favorable meteorological window this winter, the crew of the BRETTLING ORBITER 2 - which has been gearing up all summer for a new attempt - will be at Château-d'Oex for a second extraordinary take-off, with a view to setting the last great aviation record: a non-stop round-the-world balloon flight at an altitude of 10,000



January 12, 1997: the BREITLING ORBITER 1 heads for its planned round-the-world trip

INFO ORBITER 2: Tel. 41 (0) 32 183 Office du Tourisme: Tel. 41 (0) 26 924 25 25 www.breitling-orbiter.ch

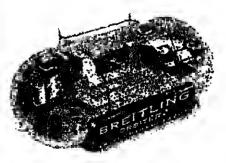
Powerful jet streams

While the sun and Its effect on helium will provide the upward driving force for the BREITLING ORBITER 2, jet streams will be the determining factor in terms of speed and distance covered. streams - sometimes reaching speeds of between 300 and 400 km/h - now play a significant role in the velocity of transatlantic flights.



The Kevlar and carbon fiber cabin of the BRETTLING ORBITER 2 will be exposed during the flight to the extremely low temperatures (between -55°C and -70°C) prevailing at high altitudes.

Sophisticated thermal insulation and a kerosene-burning heating system will maintain the temperature on board at around 18°C to 20°C.



Closely linked to the world of aviation since the early days of "heavier than air" flight, down through the decades BRETTLING has consistently produced increasingly sophisticated wrist-worn instruments for pilots. BREITLING is extremely proud to be a part of this new non-stop round-the-world balloon attempt and wishes a successful flight to Bertrand, Wim and Andy.

S Korea misses out as stocks rebound in the Far East

Aimost all the Asian stock markets showed signs of cautious optimism yesterday. But, as Stephen Vines reports from Hong Kong, there is no sign of an end to the problems in Seoul.

A more familiar gloom reasserted itself yesterday in South Korea, where the rollercoaster of the Scoul stock market sent shares soaring at the end of last week, with the market falling by almost 5 per cent.

Some of the fall came from profit taking but it was also triggered by news of the failure of the Halla Group, the country's 12th-largest conglomerate. which owns a fork-lift trucks factory in Merthyr Tydfil, south Wales, employing 180 people. Yesterday corporate uncertainty deepened with an announcement by Hyundai, Korca's biggest conglomerate, which said it was cutting investment by 30 per cent and intended to refocus on the export market.

Meanwhile, another con-

company, a move seen as risky

The government also entered the takeover mood by seizing control of the troubled Seoulbank, possibly with a view to throwing it into the merger pot with other grief stricken financial institutions. South Korea is just days

away from the signing of the biggest international financial rescue package in history and investors are still not sure whether it will be enough to put the world's 11th largest economy back on its feet.

However, Malaysia's troubled stock market registered its higgest one-day rise in history vesterday, hursting through the gloom of recent months. The hlue-chip index gained more than 11 per cent in response to the government's announcement of a tough austerity programme and a decisive cut in economic growth forecasts.

Much of the damage in Malaysian financial markets has been self-inflicted following attacks on international financiers by Prime Minister Mahathir two of 58 finance companies Mohamad, However, his deputy Anwar Ibrahim, who also serves glomerate, Daewoo, announced as the Finance Minister and is that it would be taking over the better liked by the financial ailing Ssanayong Motor community, moved to centre- rise in share prices.

stage by announcing the austerity plan last Friday. Yesterday Mr Anwar went further to reing Dr Mahathir's calls for outlawing currency speculation. "Malaysia will also continue to practise a market system," Mr Anwar insisted, saying there were "no plans to introduce any controls over foreign exchange". He announced that govern-

ment ministers would set an example in the austerity stakes by taking a 10 per cent pay cut. Malaysian economic growth forecasts for next year have been cut from 7 to 4.5 per cent. Government spending will be slashed by 18 per cent and measures have been introduced to tighten credit supply.

The government finally appears to be speaking the same anguage as investors who have knocked more than half off the value of shares on the Kuala Lumpur stock exchange since the beginning of the year.

In Thailand, the Finance Minister, Tarrin Nimmanahaeminda, announced that only whose licences were suspended would be allowed to reopen. Investors responded well to the announcement with a modest



Take-off approaches

During their promising first flight

ahoard the BREITLING ORBITER on January 12 1997, Bertrand Piccard and

Wim Verstraeten had very little time to

observe the good flight performance of

operation of the capsule - flawed only

by a tiny detail, in the shape of the

defective clamp which resulted in the

Several hours after the subsequent

incident-free landing on water,

BREITLING decided not to give up after

this first attempt. An entirely new rozier

balloon, BREITLING ORBITER 2, was thus

huilt, taking account of the lessons

gleaned from the first flight. The new

craft features a larger envelope to allow

for more fuel, itself entirely redesigned

to house a third crew member: Andy

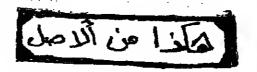
Elson, the flight engineer involved in

the development of Brettling Orbiter 1.

famous kerosene leakage.

Strapped to the wrist of the crew of the BRETTLING ORBITER 2 will be an exceptional instrument watch, equipped with an emergency microtransmitter. In its civil aviation version, the EMERCENCY broadcasts on the 121.5 MHz aircraft distress frequency and complements the ELT- type beacons also on board.

INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS™



TI Group stages a crucial rally as it struggles to stay in Footsie

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

TI Group was engaged in a rearadding a crucial £130,000 to its offering the sort of incentive to help the engineer avoid the dreaded drop.

mittee is due to meet tomorrow to decide the composition of the blue chip index, which has lost some of its reputation for reflecting the state of the upper end of the stock market since the Stock Exchange introduced its controversial, much criticised order driven trading system in October,

Order book trading in Footsie shares has produced an array of silly prices at the close which have, despite their questionable reliability, been blissfully incorporated into Footsie

TI, a long established Foot- Merrill Lynch investment 44.5 points to 5.187.4. At one ing merger, which is bound to er Quarto 32p to 69.5p and marcherished Footsie membership. impervious to relegation until capitalisation and, just possibly, 690p, began to will, with performing Footsic reserve. Lehman Brothers suggesting they were overvalued.

Misplaced worries about The Footsie steering com- the impact of sterling's strength on group trading also took a few problems. Next week their toll. The shares fell to Guinness becomes Diageo and 456.5p last month before stag- GrandMet, in effect, disaping a much needed rally.

RMC, the building mat-

cury Asset Management are ex- 12.5p to 582p and Guinness 13p pected to be the replacements. to 585p. For MAM it will, however, be a short-lived return. The shares, vest in Footsie stocks continued which lost their Footsie status - to try and anticipate the comin the last review, are strong fol-mittee moves. Footsic had anlowing the surprise hid from the other festive session, gaining

guard action to preserve its sie constituent, had seemed house. The agreed takeover is time it was up 8116. likely to be completed early next The shares rose 27p to 527p, early in October. Then its year, prompting the elevation come early for the market this National Westminster Bank. shares, riding at an impressive of what is at the time the best

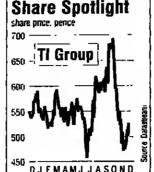
Diageo. the unlikely

moniker for the combined Grand Metropolitan/Guinness drinks cocktail, will also create pears. So the committee could reinstate one of this week's caerials group, is the other likely sualties. But it won't. It will casualty. The shares fell 22p to again raid the reserves and the sualties. But it won't, It will 913p; they have been as high as then highest placed will become a Footsie constituent. In the British Energy and Mer- meantime GrandMet rose

As tracker funds which in-

year. Normally the lestive cheer ond half of December, However yesterday's advance lifted this month's already heady upsurge to more than 350.

Financials again led the charge. The huge Swiss hank-



cost up to 3.000 City jobs, in- keting and plastic group Christmas has, in effect, spired money shares, with Princedale 4.5p to 18p. now the target for all seasons, anctioneer, decided to anbecomes pronounced in the see- gaining 58p to 998p. A strike by Barclays, up 27p to 1.573p, is regarded in some quarters as inevitable. Both banks have jettisoned their investment confirmed it may bid for JCL the banking operations and, it

> each other as never before. Lloyds TSB, 25.5p firmer at 785.5p, is regarded as the natural predator for Norwich Union, 10p up at 390p. Other financials in the money included Royal Bank of Scotland

could be argued, now need

solved and it is still in man-Blue Circle Industries, the agement's hands to turn cement group, fell 21.5p to agement's hands to turn 328.5p as Dresdner Kleinwort fortunes around. End game or a recovery stock? Investors Benson downgraded, and last should profit from either," say week's profit warning lowered

analysis Andrew Burnett and BTR a further 3.5p to 179p. Profit warnings hit publish-Melanie Sharp.

TAKING STOCK

Christies International, the

nonnee the end of takeover talks

which the market was unaware

had started. The shares rose Ip

to 249.5p. Lourho, up 4p to 93p.

South African mining group.

Telewest Communications

gained 6.5p to 79.5p on reports

hardened 2p to 271p as Char-

terhouse Tilney drew atten-

tion to its takeover vulnerability.

"Sooner rather than later the

company's future will be re-

First Leisure Corporation

of a US West assault.

Allied Leisure is taking a 23 per cent interest in Ofextraded Sanctuary Leisure. The stake is part of a £2.3ar sale of six bowling centres to Sanctuary, which is also paying £900,000 on completion and £600,000 m

stages. Allied softened 0.5p to 32.5p. Sanctuary held at 30.5p. The company has two night clubs and two American pool bars. It made profits of £200,000 in its last financial

Interest is building in Merchant Retail, which takes in the Perfume Shops and a chain of department stores. The shares rose 3.25p to a 35.75p peak. Year's profits of around £2.3m (£1.8m) are

Market Link Publishing arrived on AIM. Placed at 50p the shares closed at 55p. The flotation raised £3.1m.

5 25. Control for State 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	acrefirery herrs but including exceptionals, arapended: p Party Palci: np Nai Paich AIPA. Source: Bloomberg el. 089! - 201 200 re Prices, 24 hours a day, call 089! - 20! 200. followed by a Scock Marker Summary Report. followed by a Scock Summary Report.
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source: Bloomberg

23/BUSINESS



The second secon

HAMISH MCRAE ON THE LATEST LESSONS FOR BANKS

The financial folklore that cannot be banked on

We are re-learning two old happen wheo there is little or weight of had deht. Of course, there would be competition autumn, aod – mayhe – learning two new ones.

highlighted by the oews of the established. merger yesterday of two of the three big Swiss hanks. For anyone who follows hanking the fact that there should be three Asia. This is that hanks should asts of the Japanese hanking big Swiss hanks is part of the folklore. Banks in other countries might merge, he taken commercial clients. over, or even fold - more of unassailable, symbols of Swiss its clients, has loog heen necessary to be a bank. solidity and competence in touted as a preferred alterinternational hanking.

That view was wrong. It ing". From the bank's point of was wroog hecause anyooe who took that view was forgetting that the domioaot tiooship ought both to enable theme in banking is still one it to know more about the cusof consolidation. Baoking, tomer's business and to earn particularly international a higher margin because the back, in various forms, to the hanking, is becoming more customer is not shopping last century. The Midland and the hanks might have and more a commodity husi- around for the cheapest name has survived change of retained their independence. ness, where it is very difficult service. And from the custo- ownership to the Hong Kong for any hank to sustain a com- mer's point of view, a long- and Shaoghai Bankiog parative advantage over the term relationship should others. As margins become ensure more support if things compressed, size matters start going wrong. more and more.

are simply not needed, for the sure, too close a relationship merged bank reckons it can do also threatens the hank. the same amount of husiness without them.

551.70 434.30 302.00 304.70 94.60 40.70 54.62 54

One of the old lessoos is long-term trend remains the problem. But even with-

not become too close to their model to acknowledge its clieots, particularly their evident weakoesses.

that io a moment. But the where the hank seeks to have sible new ones? One is that to another. three hig Swiss banks seemed a loog-term relationship with be a hanking name is not view, bioding in a customer in some kind of long-term rela-

There are undoubted ad-The practical illustration of vantages in the relationship Hillman? that is the shedding of labour model, particularly in good planned by the Union Bank of times. But - and this is the Switzerland and the Swiss lesson of the autumo - it Bank Corporation: the carries the most profound happening here in Britain. present joint workforce of dangers when things turn Suddenly we have new banks 56,000 will be trimmed to down, for when a bank's - Tesco. Sainsbury, Virgin.

The East Asian banking model, where banks are taking place. Even here in currently crippling the Britain, which has experienced recovery in Japan. for the several waves of consolidation, high proportion of nonheing reasonably big seems to performing loans not only unneither NatWest (itself the sheet, but it inhibits them product of a merger) nor from seeking new business. So solidation will stop. That will are too frightened by their banking was hanking. So while Korean or a Japanese bank.

rela Trust
rella T

lessons about hanking this no advantage to be gaioed in several East Asian coun- within banking and competifrom further economies of tries, cronyism and in some tion for deposits from other scale. But at the moment the cases fraud have exacerbated established financial instituout that the model has been societies, no new haoking The second lesson of the shown to be flawed. It will be autumn comes from a dif- interesting to see how long it ferent part of the world, East will take for British enthusi-

> Those are the two old "Relationship haoking". lessons. What about the pos- baoking, hut developed

Banks, seen as a hrand. oative to "commodity baok- have extraordinarily longevity. The two main Scottish banks, Baok of Scotland and the Royal Bank of Scotland, date back to the seventeeoth and main UK clearing banks go Corporation. Compare that longevity with the hrand names in, say, the motor industry. Austin? Morris?

But the last year has seen the most serious challenge to banks as hrands, and it is

43,000. Those 13,000 people customers are under pres- The stores groups had been chipping away at the fringes of the financial service business for some time, for example hy Marks & Spencer offering Wherever you look in the bound into commercial unit trusts. But the success of world a similar process is empires with cross-holdings, is the supermarkets as deposittakers is something new.

Go back a quarter century and everyone thought that

tions such as the huilding brands could be established.

The first challenge to that came from First Direct, where Midland, at that stage still independent, deliherately did oot use its existing hrand name for this new style of

The word "direct" then hecame a generic term for financial services sold and handled over the phone. But people did know that Midland was behind the venture, which gave them a certain confidence. With hindsight I suspect eighteenth centuries. The four that, had the veoture been called Midland Direct, growth would have been even faster

The second challenge came from other established brands, the retailers. This was not entirely new - there was, after all, already a Harrods Bank - but the idea that one sort of brand can be traosferred to an entirely different type of venture really would have seemed astounding 25 years ago.

So the first of these two new lessons is that brands in finance are transferable. The Virgin brand, based on a record company and only a generation old, is evidently as good as bank brands which have taken centuries to huild.

And the second new lesson? Well, it is not really a lesson, more an observation on the East Asian banking money was different. People crisis. It is that for personal be no sure protection - dermines the bank's halance might be prepared to buy husiness at least, banking strange brands of coffee or brand names do not seem to soft-drinks (though, in fact. cross national boundaries very Barclays seem entirely certain creditworthy companies are the brands there are pretty well. I should think most of us to remain independent unable to borrow because the stable); they might experi- are quite glad that we do not entities. At some stage con- banks that might lend to them ment with new stores: but have an account with a

PEOPLE & **BUSINESS**

IOHN WILLCOCK



A sombre start to the week, with the sad oews vesterday that Sir Peter Hunt, chairman and managing director for the last 10 years of Britain's biggest property company, Land Securities, has died unexpectedly following a recent operation.

Sir Peter, 64, was due to make way for lan Henderson as managing director next July. while staying on as chairman. No decision on a new chairmao has yet been made by the company, which was said by a spokesman to he shocked by the news.

Sir Peter was still training as a chartered surveyor when he answered a query from Lord Samuel, the entrepreoeur who set up Land Securities after the war. Lord Samuel immediately recognised his potential and recruited him to the company. Sir Peter was made managing director 20 years ago.

Lord Samuel built the group on the slogan "location, locatioo, location", investing heavily in prime sites after the war. Sir Peter gained a reputation for preserving that vision by restricting Land Securities largely to UK prime sites. Colleagues say his other key achievements were to ideoutly relail warehouses as a growth market, and to choose the right time to launch development programmes, once in the mid-1980s and again two years ago. He will be missed.

Celltech's research and development director David Bloxham will be leaving the pharmaceuticals company early next year to become chief executive of Therexsys, an unquoted drugs company. Mr Bloxham joined Celltech in 1990 as head of R&D and more recently has had the additional role of chief operating officer.

Celltech said it expects to announce n replacement R&D director in the near future. In the meantime, Geoffrey Yarranton, director of research, and Ursula Nev. director of development, will report to the chief executive, Peter Fellner.

The City Circle, the restaurant at 10 Basinghall Street famous for its scantily clad serving wenches, has been bought by a bunch of South Africans from Richard Reynolds, who ran the establishmeot for 27 years. Sources close to the eatery tell me that Mr Reynolds was assured of a contiouing role at the restaurant, but was eased out last Friday. I've oever been there myself (honest).

Companies that specialise in decontaminating nuclear power stations rarely come top of the City's heauty parades, especially if they are listed on AIM. But Jordec has a keep following among specialist AlM trusts run by venture capitalists like Close Brothers, for instance.

Jordec's chief executive is John Foley, a 41year-old former barrister who gave up the law to become a chartered accountant with Price Waterhouse. He theo turned husinessman by joining Foseco, theo moved to Triplex Lloyd before climbing aboard Baris Holdings, which in turn became Jordec last year.

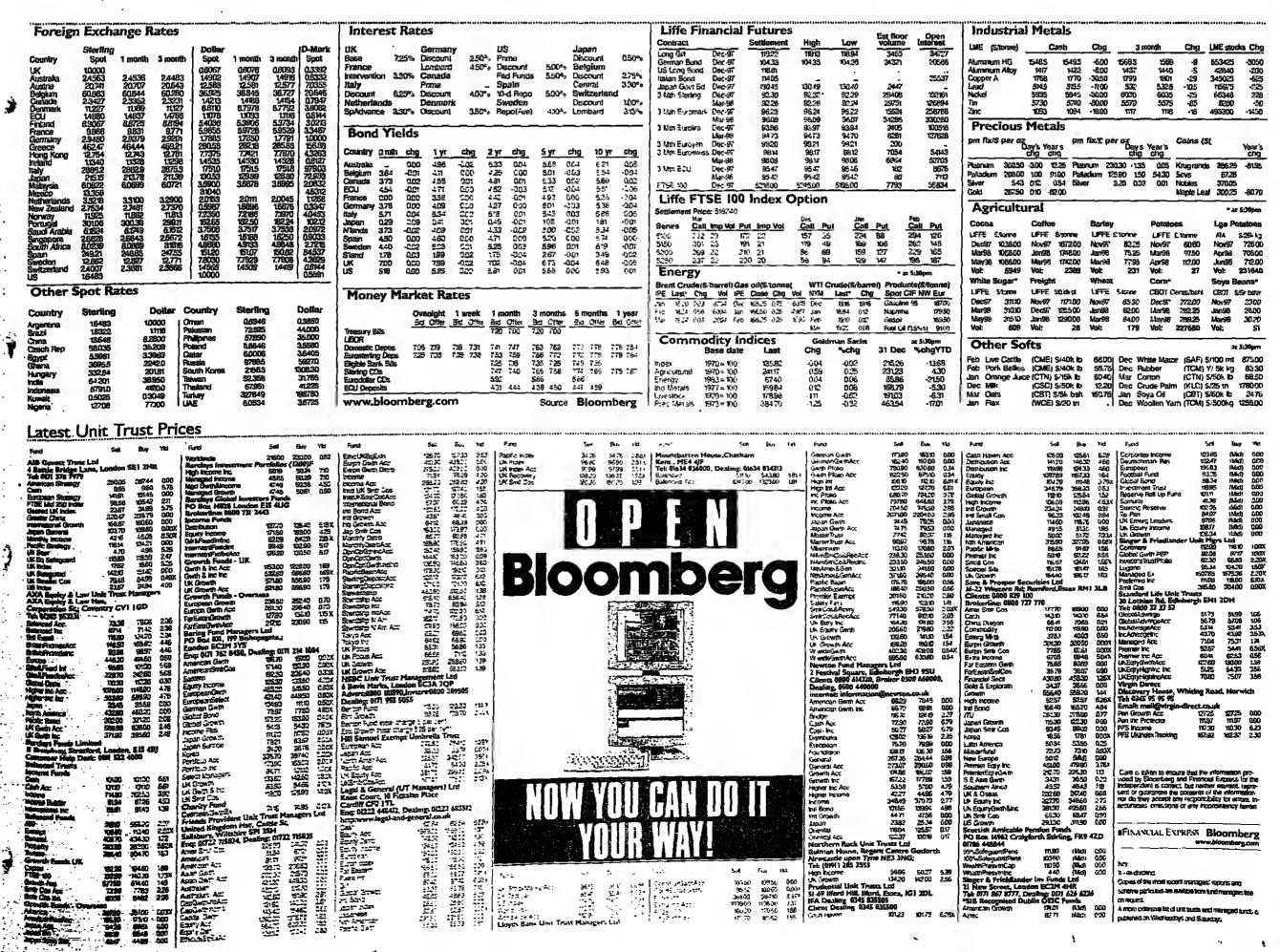
Mr Foley is also non-executive chairman of Belfast City Beat, the radio station and Ulster's answer to Capital Gold, He played cricket at school against Imran Khan, and played for Worcestershire seconds in the 1970s. Jordec has transformed itself from a lossmaking provider of ultra-clean environments for the chemicals industries to a specialist operator working hand in glove with the Atomic Energy Authority and British Energy.

A link with Corpex Technologies last month gave the company access to technology that could extend the working lives of the UK's 23 nuclear power stations. Last year the group turned a loss into a small profit but, according to the brokers Williams de Broe, Jordec could double profits to one million pounds this year.

Horace Clarkson, the shipping and insurance broker, said yesterday that managing director Hugh McCov, who is also chairman of H Clarkson & Co, has decided to retire a year earlier than planned. He will leave the company next February on his 59th hirthday "to pursue other husiness activities" and is due to assume the chairmanship of the Baltic Exchange next June. Gary Weston, a director of Horace Clarkson and deputy chairman of H Clarkson & Co, will succeed him as chairman.

Hot news just in from Enschede in the Netherlands: the Dutch brewing company Koninklijke Grolsch has decided not to launch its special anniversary beer, Finale, after checks showed that the 1.5-litre bottles are liable to hreak. According to a spokesman, the decision will cost Groisch "tens of millions of guilders". Grolsch intends to seek damages from the glass manufacturer.

127,25 111,97 110,30 162,37



Hooper's lone stand becomes a lost cause

Pakistan 417

Pakistan are poised for a clean sweep of the series against the West Indies despite a century a six and the young fast bowler from Carl Hooper on the third day of the third and final Test in Karachi yesterday.

The tourists were 198 for 7 in their second innings when bad light stopped play 15 overs early. They still need another three runs to avoid their third innings defeat in a row after an eventful day in which 16 wickets

The Pakistan and Surrey off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq added four more wickets to his five in the first innings to push his team close to their third win of the series.

wickets for 90 runs to be all out the slips after making five. for 417 - a first-innings lead of

owners by suggesting both

parties return to the negotiat-

Secret talks broke up last

week with Paul Caddick, the

Foothall and Athletic Cluh,

claiming Yorkshire had walked

out in protest at a planned

yesterday, the Yorkshire chief

stressed: "We would be quite

happy to hegin negotiations

again with Mr Caddick.

But at a press conference

ing table.

press release.

Yorkshire move over ground

manner."

captain Courtney Walsh took 4 with eight fours and a six. for 74.

Ijaz Ahmed, who was 127 overnight, fell to Dillon after making 151 with 15 fours and then took three wickets in 36 halls to reduce Pakistan to 359 for 4, dismissing Saced Anwar (15), Inzamam-ul-Haq (4) and Mohammad Wasim (12).

Walsh then burst through the lower order and reached 350 Test wickets when he trapped Moin Khan lbw for five. He became the seventh bowler to reach the milestone, passing it in his 96th Test.

Waqar Younis soon had West Indies on the defensive in two wickets in six balls. He trapped Stuart Williams for 12 Resuming on a commanding and forced the other opener 327 for 1 Pakistan lost nine Sherwin Campbell to edge to

Hooper joined Brian Lara at 201. Mervyn Dillon finished that point and they took the with 5 for 111, his best figures visitors to 100 for 2 at tea,

West Indies 216 and 198-7 in Tests, while the West Indies Hooper reaching 50 off 48 balls

The 31-year-old then went on to record the third-fastest century for the West Indies off just 80 halls, blasting 15 fours and three sixes for his eighth hundred in 67 Tests and his third against Pakistan.

Hooper added 121 runs for the third wicket with Lara, who made a resolute 37 before being

caught at silly point off Saqlain. That completed a poor series for the new Warwickshire captain, who scored 129 runs in six

Hooper was then bowled by Wasim for 106, made off 90 balls in 136 minutes, to end a stand of 42 with Shivnarine their second innings, taking Chanderpaul, who was caught behind off Saglain for 16. Saqlain then dismissed

Roland Holder and David Williams in successive overs to leave the West Indies three tail-enders' wickets away from a humiliating 3-0 series defeat. Third day: West Indiae won toss
WEST INDIES - First Innings 216 (S L
Campbell 50; Sagain Mushtan 5-54).

PAKISTAN - First Innings (Overright: 327 for 1)
Raz Ahmad c II Williams b Dillon...
Saned Ahmad c II Williams b Dillon...
Inzamem-u-l-lsay llow b Dillon...
Inzamem-u-l-lsay llow b Dillon...
Thiloin Khan llow b Walsh
Thiloin Khan llow b Walsh Yorkshire vesterday made the we are not too pleased about. first steps towards resolving. We we have been trying to their dispute with Headingley's negotiate in an acceptable Hassell claimed Caddick's proposals to re-develop Head-(118.4 evers) _____417 (cont): 2-328, 3-333, 4-359, 5-374, 6-389 0, 8-390, 9-396. ingley "lacked substance" and 7-390, 8-380, 9-396. Bowling: Walsh 23-2-74-4 (nb2); Ros 12-1-4-40 (nb1); Ollion 29.4-4-111-5: Bisho 15-0-66-0 (nb1); w1); Hooper 32-10-74-(nb3); Chanderpaul 7-0-34-1 (w1). were "no more than a model

chairman of Leeds Cricket proposal". Yorkshire claim they entered talks with Caddick to discuss the viability of Headingley's redevelopment and insist their proposed move to a purposebuill stadium in Wakefield was executive. Chris Hassell, still "very much alive".

Caddick welcomed Hassell's invitation to re-open talks, saying: "We do not intend to open "We have received a number a public debate on the details of ultimatums and threats which of our negotiations."



Pakistan's Mushraq Ahmed is bowled by Courtney Walsh as the West Indies, facing their third successive innings defeat, claimed nine wickets for 90 runs yesterday

Stewart has faith in England's approach

Alec Stewart has sufficient ex- eran with 4t caps. Stewart is still perience of one-day cricket and, whatever happens in Sharjah this week, he insists England must not be deflected from their long-term aims.

"The selectors are absolutely right to have picked the 14 they bave for this Sharjah tournament," Stewart said.

"Darren Gough would have was also unavailable, but moment consider to be our after that." best one-day squad. "I think that the preparation

and planning for the 1999 Total (for 7) 198
Fett: 1-14 2-19 3-140 4-182 5-186 6-191 7-193
To Inst: *C A Walsh, M Dillon,
Bowling: Wasim Aleram 14-7-31-1 (rib2):
Wagar Youris 6-0-31-2; Azhar Mahmood
3-0-32-0 (rib1); Mushrag Ahmed 8-0-72-0;
Saciain Mushtan 16-7-25-4 World Cup must start now, and with the players we have, plus home advantage, I helieve we have a great chance of winning. A one-day international vet-

will be awarded one point.

upset by England's poor performance in the last World Cup hecause of a lack of planning. However, he can also remember the 1992 World Cup, when England came close to beating Pakistan in the final.

"In the last World Cup we played poorly but we also learned nothing from the seven been in it, and Mike Atherton one-day games we had in South Africa as preparation for it. We otherwise it is what we at the obviously had to reassess things

Stewart sees no problem in England hringing just five of their Test squad to Sharjah. And he also sees Atherton's situation as being quite clear, "Test cricket and one-day cricket are completely different," he said, "I know that Athers will be look-

ing to captain England and open the hatting in the one-day series against West Indies this winter. Adam Hollioake, though, has done well so far but only time will tell whether he is up to the task or whether Athers can get back

into the one-day side. Things have worked very well here. The squad has come together noticeably. Adam is a very upfront person, who captains by instinct. He is prepared to my things and that's what you

need in time-day cricket." England have two days of practice before the first match of the four-nations tournament against India on Thursday, Stewan said: "India. Pakistan and the West Indies have a huge advantage over us because we have only had three proper matches

whereas they have been playing a lot of international cricket. But. I think we are ready. We had a and preparation work and we : ing the race before the finish. will go into the tournament

looking to win it." South Africa. Robert Key, the championship. Steve Peters and Graham; Napier all passed 50 as their who joins George Collins' tour match against Boland | Chessie Racing for the next leg Under-19 ended in a draw.
TOUR MATCH (Peact, finel day of three):
England Under-19 293 (I N Femagen 68, G
R Haywood 52, W du Tolt 4-81) and 191 for
3 dec (R W T Key 78, G R Napper 56, S II
Press 55): Botand Under-19 253 (R Arendas
67, G Strydom 52, J Ontong 50: C P
Schofield 5-82) and 83 for 1 (IS van der
Merve 5-100, Materia drawn.

SAILING

Penalty fails to halt Law's progress

istance lea

Demonstrating masterful tactics and boat handling, Chris Law of Great Britain won the inaugural Marriott Frenchman's Reef International Match Race by defeating the Virgin Islands' Peter Holmberg 3-0 in Charlotte Amalie Harbor for his fourth maior match-racing win of the year.

Law's path to the finals was almost upset by Luc Pillot, who pushed the British boat to a 2-2 tie in the semi-final, while Holmberg beat Italy's Francesco de Angelis 3-1.

Ranked just two places hehind Holmberg, Law came to St Thomas with his usual crew of James Stagg, Andy Hemmings, and Julian Salter, and local sailors Phillip Shannon and Lorenzo Hodge joined the team.

In the first race of the final, Holmberg got the jump on Law in light winds, but after two crosses, the British went ahead on a windshift and kept the lead throughout. Race two brought ferocious pre-start manoeuvering with Law getting the best of Holmberg. He then extended the lead and recorded his second victory in the best of five contest.

Needing just one more win, Law continued his aggressive starting attack, but this time was penalised. Usually spelling doom in match-race sailing, a penalty grood break after the season, we must be absolved by turning the have done some thorough fitness boat 270 degrees sometime dur-

Law's mastery of the pre-start came into play as he forced his ◆ The England Under-19 top-: opponent into several tactical erorder hatsmen yesterday took i rors and won the start convincthe chance to play themselves ingly. Law stretched his lead into form ahead of Thursday's enough to perform his penalty first Under-19 Test against turn and maintain his lead to win

In Lankawi, John Kostecki, of the Whitbread on Saturday, won the Malaysian Match Racing Challenge, beating fellow American Ed Baird 3-1 in the best of five final.

PHILIPS

Today we publish the latest results of The Independent Fantasy Football League. The player scores are for all League games played until Sunday December 7th. The league table includes all scores up to November 30th. The monthly winner will receive a pair of tickets to an England home international, while the overall winner gets a trip to the 1998 world cup in France.

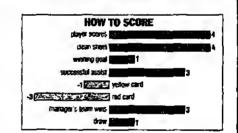
554 553

Every time one of your players score you get four points. There are four points for a keeper or a defender every time their team er is given a Red Card they lose 3 points. Own goals, either keeps a clean sheet. If a player scores the winning goal, i.e.: if there is a one goal difference in the scoreline, the player scoring the final goal for the winning team is awarded 1 bonus point awarded in addition to standard goal related points. Each successful Assist, a pass judged by our experts to lead directly to a goal, will give a player 3 points. The opinion of our experts on the matter is final. Each player selected and starting a game Sunday in the Independent on Sunday.

If a player is given a Yellow Card they lose I point, if a playscored or conceded, do not count.

The Premiership Manager that you choose will be awarded 3 points if their real-life team wins, I point is awarded if they draw and no points are given if they lose.

Updated player scores and league tables will be published every Tuesday in The Independent and repeated the following



INDEPENDENT FANTASY FO

OVERALL SCORE CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM B AUGUST - 7 DECEMBER

	LEAGU	JE TABLE	
POS	NAME	TEAM	POINTS
1	Miss Lisa Wild	Amereno AFC	596
2	Mr B Sari	The Untouchables	591
4	Mr David Aston	Billy Boys 2nd II	591
1 2	Mr Archer	No Wright	589
4 5 5 5 5 5 5	Mr B Sari	Simply The Best	588 588
[]	Mr Chris King Mr Phil Tufler	Seeking Victory Pins 4 Ups	588
ίξ	Mr David Evans	Boothen End OB	588
16	Mr John Cox	Southville FC	588
10	Mr J McCrossam	Washed Up Army	587
[iĭ	Mr Stewart Scott	Unbeatable	583
i iż	Mr David Baker	Deja Vu	578
Ϊ́Ξ	Mr Brady	Look Lively	576
14	Mr Killerby	The Killer Bees	575
15	Mr Chris Thomas	Scunthorpe Extras	573
16	Mr lan Boyle	Wembley Bundlers	572
16	Mr A Wingrove	Tony's Brace	572
16	Mr Tom Lyons	Diana's Demons	572
16	Mr Trevor Russ	Sammy's Soccer Scorche	rs 572
20	Mr Martin Pawley	Robert's Rovers	571
21	Mr Abdul Choudi	Nickies 9th II	569
21	Mr David Baker	Dead Beat	569
23	Mr David Edmington	Edmo Utd	568
24	Mr Stewart Scott	The Dream Team	567 567
24 26	Mr Ken Boyle	Clogston Rovers Ruffus	564
20	Mr Ian Brown Mr David Aston		364 563
1 4	Mr A Cummingham	Billy Boys 3rd II The Zebra	563
1 27	Mr Michael Rickard	Aller Lamberg	563
27 27 27 27 30	Mr P Green	Powis Rangers	562
30	Mr C Milne	Grimsby's Fish	562
32	Mr J McCrossam	Washed Up Army	561
32	Mr David Ackroyd	factor Lade	56t
32	Mr Tony Brazier	Jacks Lads Wow For Short	561
32	Mr J Salt	One Watt City	561
32 32	Mr John Cox	Retro Rovers	561
37	Mr F Henderson	Secondary Celtic	560
38	Mr David Ashton	Billy's Boys	558
38	Mr David Boreham	Boreham Utd	55B
40	Mr E Gromley	Celtic Warriors	557
40	Mr 5 Coulton	No Name	557
40	Mr G Bell		557
	Mr R Sheridon	Stunning Stunts	
40 45		The Frank Large Fan Chu	10 557 554
45	Mr 5 King Mr 9 Tuffer	Cruising Alexander 2	554 554

DE PLATER	TEASH WALLA	TUTE (Core)	LUGT PLATER	TELLY	May us sales	1000 PL1113	TEAN	NO. 104 N. 17.12.	LINDE MATER	TEAM	WA US	VALTE VENT	CHOF PLAIFE	TEXY	** **	VALUE
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Southall Southall Marrys Beeney Reller Powle Diames Warner Schmeckel Schmeck	ARS II 25	310 133 125 135 135 135 137 137 140 140 140 140 140 140 140 140 140 140	170 Hierdrissen 140 Storme 140 Storme 140 C Powell 140 Laurven 1415 Ermin 140 Frein 140 Uroserth 140 Uroserth 140 Uroserth 140 Hierdriff 140 Kelly 1415 Wetherall 1416 Robertson 1417 Dongo 1418 Robertson 1417 Wilds 1518 Wright 1518 Wright 1518 Wright 1518 Kearne 1518 Wright 1518 Wright 1518 Kearne 1519 Urosertye	CHERROLE STATE OF THE STATE OF	0011012310033554465522222221114582225	MIDFIELDEI MII Plan 403 Pariser 603 Percura 605 Veina 106 Overnsan 607 Mender Radraguez 106 Lobor 608 Fromand 100 Draper 600 Marrelle 6	ARS ARS ARS ARS ARS ARS ARS ARS BAR BAR BAR BAR BAR BAR BAR BAR BAR BAR	1 17 254 0 10 27 24 0 10 27 60 0 21 12 0 21 12 0 21 12 1 12 21 0 1 2 12 1 35 15 1 12 13 1 17 2 12 1 18 24 1 17 30 1 17 31 1 17 32 1 18 24 1 19 24 1 19 24 1 19 24 1 19 24	786 Gillespie 786 Bestobley 787 Kerbara 788 Birnher 789 Histor 780 Whittongham 733 Carbone 734 Maglion 735 States 736 Aukley 737 Anderlon 736 Giroda 737 States 738 Howells 748 Deltanton 749 Neckun 740 Millanton 740 Millanton 741 Moreut 748 Deltap 749 Berkoste 750 Lomas 753 Jones 753 Jones 754 Lones 755 Andles	NEW BOW SHEF SHEF SHEF SHEF SHEF SHEF SHEF SHEF	1 IR IR IR IR IR IR IR I	25 20 25 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27	See Cacon Ca	NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW NEW	0	500 510 510 510 510 510 510 510 510 510
6 Venterburn 6 Winterburn 7 Bould 8 Adams 8 Adams 9 Stannion 1 Stannion 2 Southgate 2 Hogy 8 Wight 7 Science 8 Graywo 9 Maye 9 Maye 1 Hounpoin 1 Kinzan 5 Berg 6 Kenni 7 Cokenan 8 Hendry 8 Hendry 8 Hendry 8 Hendry 8 Hendry 8 Hendry	ARS 0 W ARS 0	25 45 45 30 30 12 30 12 15 10 15 44 44 44	590 Matters 530 Mc Atters 531 Mc Atters 531 Mc Needle 535 P Needle 535 P Needle 536 P Needle 537 Johnson 530 Johnson 530 Johnson 530 Albert 541 Llowey 543 Albert 544 Bardon 540 Recessiond 540 Recessiond 540 Roden 550 Monden 550 Volum 55	LIV MAXN MANN MANN MANN MANN MEW MEWER SHEET SHE	4 K Mill 17 Mi	648 Seltars 649 Civilin 650 De Matter 650 Wice 650 Newton 650 P Hughm 650 Bebryam 657 Teller 650 Seltarshon 650 McAlloter 650 Seltarshon 650 McAlloter 650 Seltarshon 650 Academ 651 De Weell 650 Tenler 652 Pelanen 653 Pelanen 654 Pelanen 655 Continue 655 Continue 655 Continue 656 Pelanen 657 Gont 658 Gont 659 Gont 659 Seltarshon 650 Gont 651 Grant 653 Gont 653 Gont 655 Seltarshon 655 Seltarshon 656 Gont 657 Seltarshon 657 Seltarshon 657 Seltarshon 658 Gont 659 Gont 65	BOL CHE CHE CHE COV COV COV COV COV COV COV COV COV COV	1 12 12 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	756 Fear 757 C Hughes. STRIKERS 940 Hengkamp 940 Wright 944 Boamorte Percura 945 Inachum 947 Collomone 950 Witkinson 950 Hiriston 951 Collomone 950 Witkinson 950 Hiriston 951 Parhim 951 Collomone 951 Parhim 953 Setton 954 Gullacher 955 Parhim 954 Weilin 955 Zela 956 Vialh 954 Ma Hughes	ARS ARS ARS ARS ARS ARV AV AV BAR BAR BAR BAR BOIL CHIL	1 57 H 14	281320 27227 2727 2727 27227 27227 27227 27227 27227 27227 27227 27227 27227 27227 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 2727 27	MANAGERS Will Wenger 913 Linke 914 Witson 916 Todd 917 Gullan 918 Strachan 919 Coppell 730 Smith 931 Kendall 934 Graham 735 O'Nejil 936 Ecans 937 Ferguson 938 Dafgish 939 Pical 940 Jones 941 Jones 941 France	ARS AV IIAR BIAR BIOL CHE CTY DER EVE LIE LIE LIE LIE MAN NEW SITEF SITU	0 27 0 18 0 13 0 30 6 31 7 19 8 23 3 26 3 24 3 24 3 24 3 24 3 24 6 9 6 0 13	7.5 511 2.0 5.0 2.5 3.0 2.0 2.0 2.5 3.5 3.0 2.0 2.5 3.0 2.0 2.5 3.0 2.0 2.0 2.5 3.0 2.0 2.5 3.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 2.0 3.0 2.0 3.0 3.0 3.0 3.0 3.0 3.0 3.0 3.0 3.0 3

معتنا من الاصل

Gandolfo's horse best.

there areo't many races at that."

weight of 12 stone in the

Tripleprint, for which 10 hors-

es were confirmed at yesterday's

going up which would suit

Simply Dashing, next in the

However, Tim Easterby's

Coulton's presence - de-

five-day stage.

Coulton is set to carry lop

young steeplechaser. Simply Dashing, is due to run on Saturday. But the venue is yet to be decided - leaving two race tracks, Ascot and Haydock, anxiously awaiting news of who will have the weekend's main

attraction.

Britain's most exciting

Trying Again, who was well backed in the Heonessy Gold faded to be a well-beaten fifth wood as "99 per cent" certain to Suny Bay, is set to run in the to run - will stop the weights Tripleprint Gold Cup at Cheltenham oo Saturday.

"Trying Again is a probable handicap with 11st 5lh. runner." David Gandolfo, who trains the nine-year-old, said impressive Ascot winner also

RACING'S FUTURES MARKET

One Man, the form of whose Huntingdoo victory was given a the Welsh National with Coral boost by the prominent display - the Tote off just 14-1, while of the runner-up. Viking Flagship, in the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown on Saturday, is the Gold Cup following his blood-5-4 favourite for the King less victory at Fairyhouse on George VI Chase at Kempton Sunday.

on Boxing Day.

Cariboo Gold is 25-1 for Dorans Pride remains the 6-1 favourite for the Cheltcoham

Ian Davies

King George VI Chase (3m)							
Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokas	Total			
One Man (G Richards)	6-5	5-4	5-4	54			
Surry Bay (C Brocks)	4-1	*3-1	7.2	73-1			
Simply Dushing (T Easterby)	+1	9-2	· 5-I	92			
Mr Mulligan (N Chance)	9-2	9-2	9-2	9-2			
Barton Bank (D Nicholson)	11-2	6-1	5-1	6-1			
Rough Queet (7 Casey)	16-1	20-1	20-I	16-1			
Trying Again (D Gandolfo)	16-1	20-1	20-1	20-1			
Lonesome Glory (F Bruce Miler:US)	25-1	25-1	33-1	25-1			

Horse (Trainer, weight)	Coral	William Hill	Tiste
Cyborgo (M Pipe/11stGb)	7:1	B-1	6-1
Indian Tracker (U. Proe/10st 12b)	<u> </u>	7-1	6-1
Benjo (D Nicholson/115(11lb)	7-1	10-1	10-1
Samlee (P Hobbs:10st1lb)	8-1	10-1	16-1
What A Hand (P Nicholls/10st6lb)	14-1	10-1	10-1
Eudipe (M Pice 11stato)	10-1	10-1	12-1
Mudahim (N/s J Pitman/11st1lb)	doubtlus	12-1	12-1
Bulmont King (P Nicholis/12st)	X0-1	12-1	14-1
General Wolfe (T Forster-fist)	14-1	14-1	141
Lively Knight (J Gifford 10st7fb)	12-1	10-1	14-1
Bella Life (P Hobbs/11st3fo)	12-1	12-1	18-1
Celtic Abbey (Mass V Wikims/10st9fb)	16-1	14-1	16-1
Kemikaze (K Baley'	16-1	14-1	18-1
Trying Again (D Gandolfs/11588b)	coubtful	16-1	18-1
Air Shot (D Nicholson Tist)	20-1	16-1	16-1
Giventime (A Turnell'10st2lb)	20-1	16-1	14-1
Cariboo Gold (h Baley '0st' to)	25-1	16-1	yL:

Horse (Garter)	Coral	William Hill	Ledbrokes	7ch
Dorans Pride (M Houngan/iri)	8- 1	B-1	5-1	0-1
Suny Bay (C Breeks)	61	8-1	6-1	7-
The Grey Monk (G Richards)	6-1	8-1	7-1	6-
Mr Mulligun (N Charce)	10-1	12-1	X0-1	10-
Addington Boy (G Richards)	16-1	16-1	19-1	12
reported Call (F Suthertand M)	14-1	16-1	10-1	14
Simply Dashing (T Easterby)	16-1	14-1	16-1	10-
Cyborgo (M Pipe)	16-1	20-1	16-1	20-
Barton Bank (D Netvolsen)	20-1	25-1	20-1	20
Rough Duest (T Case,)	20-1	25-1	25-1	20
Sparky Gaylo (C Parker)	25-1	25-1	25-1	20
Strong Promuse (G Huckard)	16-1	20-1	25-1	25
Baryo (O Nanosom	33-1	25-1	33-1	
Course Hill (// Cems)	25-1	20-1	33-1	- · · ·
Danoti (T For, %)	33-1	33-1	20-1	2

RESULTS

LUDLOW 12.35: I. MEADOW DANCER (8 Pow-eh 5-1 2, Among Islands 5-4 fav. 3. Come-omup 3-1, 12 ran. 11-, 18 hlter 5 Water State-on-Teen, Tote: 5520 6200 GW 623 0F, Brid CSF, Erd95 Trio, 5730 f/R: The OF, DI QUEST, PROBET TWO STROMARTS THE STATION LEGISM 1.10: 1. MIR STROMG GALE (T. J. Mar. 1979) 4-1 play: 2. Gratomi 10: 1. 3. Can't Say 9-1 14 ran. 4-1 play Rossell Sland 5: 25 pl. Nichols. Sheetian Mallett. Tota: 5:590: 52-12 6: 00: 1.60 DF: 13880 CSF 13654 Ticax: 6:20914 Tino 16:30 BC CSF 13654 Ticax: 6:20914 Tino 16:30.

1.40: 1. GALLOPING GUINS; Guy Lowell 5-1 law. 2. Lancer 9-1. 3. Dontdreas-fordmans 9-2. 7 ran. 10; B Lewellyn Sarcted, Tota: 6:240: 6:30 6:82. DF: 6:560 CSF 2:2195 Ticaxst 19:179 NR Clab Cancada. CSF 22193 Treast C9173 NR Crab Carcasean 2.10: 1. BORO HILL (Nr R Walkey) 15-2. 2. Now We Know 3-8 fav. 3. Jim Valentine 4-18 fan. 3. 12 [Mass P Winter Led Law Rote 1. 15 fan. 3. 12 [Mass P Winter Led Law Rote 1. 15 fan. 3. 12 [Mass P Winter Led Law Rote 1. 15 fan. 3. 12 [Mass P Winter Led Law Rote 1. 15 fan. 7-2 [Mass P Winter Led Law Rote 1. 15 fan. 7-2 [Mass Catempo] [Mass P Winter 1. 15 fan. 7-2 [Mass Catempo] [Mass P Winter 1. 15 fan. 7-2 [Mass Catempo] [Mass P Winter 1. 15 fan. 1-2 [Mass Catempo] [Mass P Winter 1. 15 fan. 1-3 [Mas Placepot: £2350, Quadpot: £1680. Place 6: £1567, Place 5: £1863

THE INDE	<u>P</u> END	DENT
RACING	ኅ <i>ር ኅ</i>	ICES
0891	ZO	RESULTS
HUNTINGD O N	971	981
SEDGEFIELD	972	982
PLUMPTON	973	983
Att COURS 0891 2	<u>619</u>	

1.20: 1. BLUE CHARM (Mr M Bradburne)
3-1: 2. Under's Lotto 5-1, 3. Rough Test
4-1 9 ran. 5-2 to Misser Rose Ship 17-, 0.
Mrs S Bradburne Cupan; Tota: E340;
CLO C140 E480 DF: E2740 CSF E1772 Trcast. C0033 Tor: C4430
1.50: 1. BEST OF ALL (D Purker) 13-8
tav: 2. Scaraben 4-1; 3. Rapid Mover 11-1
5 ran. 6. White U Berry Codebberr 11-1 2.20: 1. MY SHENANDOLAH (A S Smith) 3-1; 2. Glerbower 7-1; 3. Point Duty 33-1. 12 ran, 11-4 fav Balleswhidden, 10. 8. Ut Howard Johnson, Crook) Tote: 6460; 5300, 51-0; 640 DF: 611-0; CSF 62229 Treass: 654275 Tho 667250 (part work) 2.50: 1. ROVAL VORK IP Carberry) 3-2. 2. Master Bavard 9-1, 3. Tom Brodde 11-0 to 12 ran, 4 m. IR Schards Gerystoke; Tote: 5329; 510 E170, 6140 DF: 61350 CSF 61905 Tot: 6250 Total: 3327: Strill Critic Child DF 1350 CSF 1995 Tios: 2950 3.20: 1. THREE FRANKS (N Homodis) 3.20: 1. THREE FRANKS (N Homodis) 44 ran. 1.3. (M Hammond, Modificam) Total: 1.240 ISSO, CTTO, CTIO DF E7400. CSF CSTS22 Tios CD420 NP Partical Bay Jackpot: nor war (pool of 62204987 car-red forward to Hurtingdon today) Placepot: 51190 Quedpot: 15340 Place 8: 52370 Place 5: 51844

Place 8: £23.70 Place 5: £18.44

SOUTHWELL

12.00: 1. MOONRAKING (W.) OCOMO)
6-1, 2. Guessimation 7-2 lav, 3. Premier Generation 11-2 14 ran, 2, 3: 11 Einemitton, 15th 15th 17-2 lav, 3. Premier Generation 11-2 14 ran, 2, 3: 11 Einemitton, 15th 15th 17-2 lav, 3. Premier Generation 11-2 14 ran, 2, 3: 11 Einemitton, 15th 15th 17-2 lav, 3. Premier Generation 11-2 lav, 3: 15th 17-2 lav, 3: 15

COTS 60 (part word) 3.00: 1, CUTTING ANSHAKE (R Portam) 3.00: 1, CUTTING ANSHARE (R Portam)
10-1 2, Kette's Cracker 5-1, 3, Blue
Desert in 4 to 18 ran, 7 11 M Channom
Tote: 0510, 0440, 0240, 0200 DF 55280
2 30: 1, DEMOCRAT (Mr C Vigors) 7-4
4 v. 2, Zalotto 8-1; 3, Silk St John 5-1; 4,
Bontico 6-1, 16 ran, 4 2; 15* Mark Prosport,
Tote: 0340, 014, 0150, 0350, 0230, 075, 0310,
CSF, 2000 Trease, 0739, 0730, 0790,
Placepot: 033763 Quedpot: 05900
Place 9: 037793 Place 5: 036593

over two miles and five furlongs. Tommy Whittle Chase at Haymore than five furloogs short- dock oo the same day and plans er than the Hennessy. But test- have yet to be finalised.

ing ground would suit Bells Life, winner of last season's John Hughes Trophy at "I was pleased with him io Aintree, reappears in the £60,000-added contest, having the Hennessy as he didn't get missed his inteoded comeback the trip and the step down will suit him at Chelteoham. Three at Chepstow last Saturday. miles is his best distance but

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Royale Angela (Plumpton 3.10) NB: Woodlands Boy (Plumpton 2.10)

Sarah Hobbs, wife of train-Cup at Newbury 10 days ago hut scribed by trainer Oliver Sher- er Philip Hobbs, explained: "He got a minor injury on his back leg coming down the gallops and although he had got over it OK he just needed a hit more time, so we decided to give Chepstow a miss.

PLUMPTON

12.40 Totally Yours 1.10 Music Please

1.40 Farfadet V

"Glenn Tormey, who usual-

yesterday. Saturday's race is holds an engagement in the ly rides him, will probably ride oo Saturday."

Whatever the fate of Bells er has mapped out an ambitious

"After Cheltenham he will oumbers. follow the same route as Samlee [stable companioo] and go for the Welsh National with the Grand National his main target," Mrs Hobbs added.

Challenger du Luc will renew rivalry with his Murphy's Gold Cup conqueror Senor El Betrutti on 3lb better terms for the three-length defeat suffered by Martin Pipe's charge. Fine Thyme, runner-up to

Simply Dashing in the First National Bank Gold Cup, is also in the Cheltenham feature but is currently 4lh out of the handicap. The Amanda Perretttrained eight-year-old goes best on good ground or faster.

2.40 OUROWNFELLOW (nap)

3.10 Royale Angela 3.40 Maylin Magic

GOING: Soft (Heavy in patches).

• Left-hand, undulating course with sharp bends. Tricky downfall fence in back straight.

Uphil run-in of 200yd.

joher un-an of 200yd. № Racecurse is off A275 south of Haywards Heath. Plumpton rall station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members £13; Tattersalls £9; Course £5. CAR PARK: £4 (cantre of course)

a 11.
b LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 22 winners from 45 runners gives a success ratio of 48.9%,
J Jenkins 13-77 (16.9%), R Rowe 13-84 (15.5%), D Grisselli 11-76 (14.5%).
b LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 26 ware from 76 rides gives a success ratio of 34.2%,
J R Kavenseph 12-82 (18.4%), W McFarland 7-42 (16.7%), B Fenton 6-76 (7.9%).
b FAVOURITES: 89 wins in 440 races (43%).
B LINKERED FIRST TIME: Precious Wonder (110) (visored), Bligwig (3.10), Milly Le Moss (2.40%).

12.40 BRIGHTON NOVICE CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £2,122

debut last lerm, she was having only her second outing of the season when lessping on to fineh littli behind Berylium at Ludlow and could improve. Selection: TOTALLY YOURS

1.10 HENFIELD MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m Penalty Value £2,490

Jim Old's team is in tremendous form and BARRISTER BOY stands but here on his chas-

entries in the race, Kadi (10st 1lb) and Destin d'Estruval (9st Life in the Tripleprint, his train- 13lb) with the first named requiring soft ground. Scottishcampaign for the eight-year-old. trained Major Bell makes up the

> Katie's Cracker, Mick Ouinn's second runner as a trainer, was a runner-up at Southwell yesterday, heateo half a length by Cutting Anshake, who is trained and owned by old footballing partners, Mick Channon and Kevin "The guv'nor has turned me

over," said Quinn, referring to his two-year spell as assistant trainer to Chanoon before recently gaining his own licence.

TRIPLEPRINT GOLD CUP: Ante-post odda (Cashman's): 11-4 Smply Dasting, 4-1 Challenger du Luc, Trying Again, 6-1 Couton, 7-1 Senor B Betrutti, 10-1 Kadi, 12-1 Me-



Christopher Spence (above) is to succeed Sir Thomas Pilkington as Senior Steward of the Jockey Club for a four-year term from I July next year. Spence has held various posts in racing but is best known to most racegoers as the owner

of Celeric, ridden by Pat Eddery to win the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot last June.

Wyatt credited with Tote advance Tributes were paid yesterday to larly sad for me as he was first

mer chairman of the Horserace a century ago, when he was per-MP died in hospital on Sunday after suffering a burst artery in his stomach. The flamboyant Lord Wyatt

when he was succeeded by Pe-

introduction of Tote Direct, a rect." computerised system through which major off-course booktheo placed in the Tote's pools on a commissioo basis. Tristram Ricketts, chief ex-

ecutive of the British Horserac- ting organisations in the ing Board, said yesterday: "Woodrow's passing is particu-

Lord Wyatt of Weeford, the for- associated with my family half Totalisator Board who has died sonal assistant to my grandfaaged 79. The former Labour ther, Sir Stafford Cripps, oo the Cabinet Mission to India."

Ricketts added: "His 21 vears at the helm of the Tote will long be remembered as the was chairman of the Tote io period in which this key organ-1976 until July 31 this year isation embraced new technology, customer service, expansion of outlets on and off The peer is credited with the course and, crucially, Toto Di-

John Heaton, the Tote's chief executive also paid his remakers accept bets that are specis: "Lord Wyatt transformed the Tote during his leadership making it one of the most technically advanced bet-

Obituary, page 18

1.40 DITCHLING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 52,925 added 2m 4f Penalty Value 52,384 Simpson had been off the track since the end of March when trouncing solitary rival Decylong (who was favourite) 17 lengths at Worcester eight days ago and represents the
in-form Jim Old stable. However, he is russed 7th for that and faces a stiff task conceding 22b (including Seamus Durack's allowance) to OUROWNIFELLOW. Roger Curtis's
runner was in the lead only to tail styteness out (the 15th) in Eleus's race at Windsor two
weeks ago on his first appearance since January let had jumped well until that lapse.
Wishing William, an Irish point winner but unplaced in a bumper on his only outing last
season, made a successful start over regulation fences over two miles five here three
weeks ago but the form amounts to little. He was left in front when market fleader Rosevelley (who was upsides) fell two fences out and beat only Ring Corbitts (a maiden after 20 races) and Primitive Streak. Bramblehits Back has yet to win away from Newton
Abbot (four wins). A lazy type, he is a very difficult note and firished a remote third to
Dom Samural when taxourite there on he return. The muddy conditions will suit but he
is not one to rate support. ion had been off the track since the end of March when trouncing solitary rival De-

- 7 declared -BETTING: 4-9 Farladet V, 11-2 Guest Aliance, 10-1 Adilox, Just Nip, 20-1 Claregary, 25-1 Kopein,

1996: Emerald Statement 8 10 9 G Hogen (3) 4-7 fav (D Griesell) Bran

Mertin Pipe does exceptionally well with his French acquisitions and FARFADET V, who made most of the running and bettled on gamely to region the advantage and beat Lord Rochfield a longth and three-quarters on his British debut at Utitaletter, can supplement the gains. The tour-year-did was also successful at Victy in August, following with an Autualithid and there is better still to come. Inthe Import Kopathi, runner-up in a maden hundle at Ballinrobe in July and third in a Kilbeggen bumper the following menth but unpleaded in three outlings since, should go well on his British debut but Quest Alliance may be the one to follow the selection home. Quest Alliance won twice on the Longfield Equitrack (1995 and 1996) and trotted up first time up over timber at Fontwell last month, though he run below expectations when only soth to Supreme Charm at Ascot 11 days afterwards. Just Nip, a Sedgefield bumper winner on his single start last season, will be the bother for his first effort over timber – third to FR The BBI here three weeks ago when drifting from 3-1 to twice those odds.

2.10 OWL HOLDINGS HANDICAF COM-added 2m 5f Penalty Value £3,558 OWL HOLDINGS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000

- 6 declared Minimum weight: 10st, True handloop weigher Jop, Forset Feather 8st 73th.
BETTRNG: 11-4 Kanar, 3-1 Equity Player, Woodlanda Boy, 7-2 Forest Feather, 9-2 Bestson, 14-1

1996: Beatson 7 10 8 B Powell 11-4 (R Buckler) 5 ran

KARAR, who went in over course and distance three weeks back on only his second appearance of the season, can tolow up reong off a 5to higher mark. True, that might have been a weak heat, but then again so is this and, as it was only his second race of the season - he twisted is shoe and backly geated his chest on his reappearance - there should be better still to come from Richard Riewe's runner. Beatson landed this a year should be better still to come from Richard Rewels runner. Beatson landed mis a year ago for the middle leg of a hal-brick but has lest his wey this term and Equity Player may prove Karar's toughest rivel. A profic point-to-point winner in his younger days, Equity Player is only a pound higher than when betting on garnely to defeat Mammy's Choice (the years his junior) three parts of a length at Taunton leaf time. Woodlands Boy went in over course and distance 13 months ago but has a 255-day absence against him. Selection: KARAR

2.40 'GALLEANO' CHALLENGE CUP (HANDICAP CHASE) (CLASS E) £4,100 added 3m 1f 110yda Penalty Valua £2,917

1	2165-3	BRAMBLEHILL BUCK (21) (BF) (Tand J.A. Curry) P Nichols 8 12 0
		L Cummins (5) B
		ALY DALEY (17) [Michael Total) P Moorey 9 11 11
1		SIMPSON (8) (D) (John Boket) J Old 12 11 8 (7ex)
,	/U00-F	VERYVEL (CZE) (4) (David S Levis) J Neville 8 1) 7
•	/P10-1	WISHING WILLIAM (22) (C) (Executive Racing Club) Mass H Knight 5 to 8
5	/34P-F	OUROWNETELLOW (13) (Kings Of The Road Partnership) R Curts 8 10 5
•	-34530	JOKER JACK (14) (Richard Dean) R Dean 12 10 0 D Leahy
din.	lmum wak	rhic 10st, True handican welght: Joker Jack 8st 8lb.
4	TING- O	Franchistell Buck 5.2 Streets 7.2 Wishing William 9.2 Air Daley 10.1 Ourrows

Jen Olds team is in tremendous form and BARRISTER BOY stands but here on his chesing-debut neck second to Dencetifyoudrop at Worcester a fortright ago. The even-yearold - tailed off in a nowces' handicap hurdle at the same track last month on his only
other previous appearance this term - railled on the run-in after making most of the running and must progress with the experience. Music Please, trained by Kim Belley last
season when he was a nack runner-up to Gelsway at Fakanham (novices' handicap hurdie) on his penustriade stert, was sold for 11500grs at the Doncaster May Sales. The Music Boy five-year-old looked in need of the race when south of 16 firishers behind Ginger
Fox at Warwick (novices' hurdle) last month on his first outing from Venetia Williams' stable. Music Please with have been well schooled for the faring bow and can follow Barristers Boy home. Lats Rumble finished runner-up to Credon here in February last year,
has not been out since.

3.40 LADBROKE NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £2,385

3.10 H.B.L.B. EASTBOURNE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,575 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £1,970

African weight: 10st, True handicap weights. Bigwig 9st 9th, Do Be Ware 9st 6th.
BETTING: 5-4 Northern Drums, 9-4 Royale Angele, 4-1 Drum Bettle, 10-1 Kelly Mac, 12-1 Bigwig, 25-1 Challenger Row, Do Be Ware
1998: Ismeno 5 11 9 A Dicken 8-1 (S Dow) 7 ran
FORM GUEDE
Bought out of Norman Bahbenets crarbs to Assessed

1996: Ismano 5 11 9 A Dicken 8-1 (5 Down 7 ran FORM GUIDE)

Bought out of Norman Babbage's stable for 4,800gns after winning at Tauriton in October, NORTHEIN DRUMS has since won three times for Martin Pipe and was bedien a length and a quarter by subsequent scorer Cutterridge on a return to Tauriton 12 days ago – the pair 15 lengths clear Northern Drums has yet to encounter soft ground but, being by Sadfer's Wells, should have no problems with it and can return to winning form despite being raised 9b. Royale Angela, off the course last season and runner-up to the selection's stablemate Deano's Beeno at Newton Abbot on his return, wert one belief at Worcester (soft) eight days ago and might provide most danger despite top weight. The provide has also raced just twice this term and went down only a length to subsequent scorer Sessine Seed at Worcester a tortright ago, Kelly Mac was a course and distance winner in March but is without an outing since timeling numer-up behind Night in A Million here 11 days later.

Bet 13th, Mary La Moss sey 11th.

Bet TillnG: 94 Unwintable Boxer, 7-2 Experienza IV, Maylin Moglic, 4-1 Mics Secret, 7-1 Tellaporky, 25-1 Young Ardrose, Caste Barry, 33-1 Milly Le Moss.

1996: Copper Col 6 til 4 J Power (7) 10-1 [W G M Turner) 10 ran

MAYLIN MAGIC is still a maider) but then ageln six of her seven rivats have yel to w Towcester three miles to score by nine lengths and she has as good a chance as an on that display. Her most recent run, pulled up when tailed off at Newbury, is far from an occupying, however Unstitutable Boxer banded a Tipperary bumper in 1994. He ran than both starts last term, the latest behind Stormy Passage at Newbury in February, and he will be fit enough for this opening run, coming from Martin Pipe's yard. Miles Secretical did not do badly for a first run of the season when fourth to Relative Chance as Sandown four weeks and.

HUNTINGDON

12.30 Auburn Boy 1.00 Garethson 1.30 Flying On 2.00 Get Reat 2.30 Namoodaj 3.00 The Toiseach (nb) 3.30 Squaddia

GOING: Chase course - Good, Hurdle course - Good, Good to

Soft in places)

Right-hand, level course, Run-in 200yd.

Right-hand, level course, Run-in 200yd.

Richcourse is at junction of A1 and A604. Hurkingdon station (serice from London, King's Cross) in, ADMISSION: Members £12, Feddock &B. Course Ex, CAR PARKF, Ponce area £1; remander free

LEADING TRAINERS: K Belley 23-65 (348%), J Gifford 15-68 (232%), G Hubbard 13-59 (22%), Mrs M Reveley 11-35 (514%),

LEADING JOCKEYS: R Durrenody 16-84 (13%), D Bridgweiter 11-62 (177%), A Maguire 11-72 (153%), M A Ritzgerald 9-74 (122%), PAVOLRIFES: 208-462 (432%), VISORED FIRST TBRE: Cointosser (1230) (visored), Vis Del Quatro (100) (visored), Grosvenor Heath (10).

12.30 CHRISTMAS PARTY CLAIMING HDLE (CLASS F) £2,575 addad 2m 110yds

1.00 HUGH ROSSELLI MEMORIAL MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS F) £3,475 added 3m

HYPERION

12.20 Charley Lambart 12.50 Jills Joy 1.20

Galen 1.50 Tudor Fellow 2.20 UK Hygiene 2.50

♠ Racecourse is 1m SE of town near junction of A689 and A177

Bus aervice from Stockton station (9m) or Durham station (12m). ADMISSION: Paddock EB (OAPs £4). Course E2. CAR PARK: Pod-ADMISSION: PRODUCT IN (CAPS 2-1). CONTROL OF THE MANUAL IN TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveloy 67-230 (291%), G M Moore 19-111 (171%), J Howard Johnson 19-58 (12%) J Wade 15-57 (96%). LEADING JOCKEYS: L Wyer 21-103 (201%), J Supple 14-72 (194%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Seldom But Severe (150) Crabble's Pride

12.20 GOLDEN LION 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) 52,500 added 2m 5f

0-5 ANSINT MARINES (31) 1 WARDS 9 10 2 ... 5 Taylor (5) 25-6 CARLON T MARINES (31) 1 WAYPIN 5 10 7 ... E CARLON FOR COLO. ON INTERPRETATION (22) 1 WOOD TO 10 1 C... W DWG 6-0 RONNIES WEDDING (11) 1 Lactor 5 10 12 ... G FR

SEDGEFIELD

Dragons Bay 3.20 Soldiar Mak

40P-22 EU'S HARBOUR (13) O Sharwood 6 tt 0 ... J A McCarthy 12233 GARETHSON (267) (D) (BF) Mos H Kright 6 tt 0 ... Culluly P GROSVENOR HEATH (NZ) (12) A Barrow 9 tt 0 50-63F JAVEJIN COOL (14) G Habbard 6 11 GMIchael Brintain (3)
00P0 LANIAJI (981) T George 8 11 6 ... D J Kavarnejh (5)
5422- MAJORS LEGACY (284) (D) T Forsier 8 11 0 ... A Thornton
P2P1F7 OPUS WANNOOD (633) (D) K Comerited 9 11 0 .P Carborry
P3929 OVER THE CORRES (628) (D) J Curts 7 11 0R Thornton (5)
P310- PERRYMAN (234) (D) K Souley 5 11 0 ... JAIr R Waldey (5)
04 TEETON THOMAS (660) May P Robeson 8 11 0 ... D Byrms
00F4- WEESEND WORKER (11) T Koddy 8 11 0 ... Guy Lewis (3)
P 2005 VIA DEL QUATRO (13) (D) J Mairrs 5 10 8 ... S Curran V
14 declared -_Mr D McPhall (7) B

1.30 ROBERT BAKER HALF CENTURY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,925

12.50 GOLDEN LION NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) F2,500 added 2m 5f 110yds

20 YOUNG TONO (21) J Howard Johnson 5 10 12 E Callaghar 00-4 LAST ACTION (87) J Norton 4 10 7 ____ B Gentlan 5 THRICLERY SKEENA P Beaumon 6 10 7 ___ R Supple

1.20 DICKIE DODS MEMORIAL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,500 added 3m

- 11 declared -7-2 Handscree Anthooy, 5-1 Thirkleby Sixeens, 13-2 Mill-Dut, no, 0-1 Basincroff, Devid's Way, Jille Joy, 18-1 others

- 22 declared -BETTING: 6-4 Ginger Fox, I 1-2 Kuala Lipis, 7-1 Flying On, 6-1 King Kato 12-1 Young Spartacus, 14-1 Mountgats, Road Recer, Sir Turtle, 20-1 oth 2.00 SIR PETER CROSSMAN NOVICE HAND-ICAP CHASE (CLASS E) 25,000 added

2m 110vda OP:50 - VENDOON (175) (D) M Heaton-Bis 7 to 0 ... D Bridgester 3430-4 DESERT CALM (12) D McCan 8 to 0 V Slattery - 5 declared -

sex ray BETTRIC: evens Get Resi, 3-1 Reyal Event, 6-1 Ferwick's Brother, Ap-pearance Money, 18-1 Verde Lune, Georgetown, 25-1 Desort Calm, 33-1

2.30 WOOLLEY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,650 added 2m 110yds 101-10 DESERT MOUNTAIN (25) (D) (BF) N Calloghan 4 12 D 212-33 BARFORD SOVEREIGN (14) (C) (D) J Farshave 5 11 0 ...

> 3505 LORD PAT (32) Miss M Miligan 6 11 5.... D Pat /52FP- NOOSA SOUND (285) L Lungo 7 11.5 ..

30-0P3 WEAVER SOLIARE (26) P Eccles 6 115 P Nik

2.20 HARDWICK ARMS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 110yds

60402- SUPER SANDY (213) (D) F Wallon 10 100 ___ K Johnson P-0L40 GONE ASHORE (18) (D) M Barres 8 10 0 ___ S Taylor (S) ___ 9 declared ___

3.00 BARHAM CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS' HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,075 added 2m 4f 110vds

BETTING: 11-8 The Toiseach, 5-2 Gazetic Blue, 3-1 Judicial Field, 7-1 Se

3.30 WEATHERBYS 'STARS OF TOMOR-ROW' NH FLAT RACE (CLASS H) \$1,500 CONCHOBOR (27) (D) K Baley 5 to 0 ... W Wateh (7)
ARREQUENCE PRINCE (21) N Babbage 5 til 4 B Fowler (7)
BERTIE BAYARD (251) G Johnson Houghton 5 til 4 ...
Miss E Johnson Houghton
COOLAW F Murphy 4 til 4
All P Murphy (7)

NOR'S CASH FOR FUN H Collingridge 4 11 4

D SALFORD CIUAY (25) Min J Perran 4 11 4 R Shudholma (7)
SMITH'S PERK Mrs J Petran 4 11 4 R Glerrard (7)
SMITH'S PERK Mrs J Petran 4 11 4 R Thomion (3)
32-5 SQUADDIE (30) J W Payne 5 11 4 R Thomion (3)
D CUEEN'S CMARTER (20) N Twelon-Davies 4 10 13.....

1.50 NAGS HEAD MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 3m 3f 2.50 HOPE INN HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m 5f AUGZ2- WANTER BELLE (347) J Howard Johnson 9 11 _____ (3

1533-3 SOLD ACCOUNT (29) G M Moore 7 11 7 B Storey E 5540-1 JUKE BOX BILLY (32) (CD) Mrs J Brown 9 11 7 E Callaghan P-53UU OLE CILE (19) (CD) Mrs & Moscrop 11 10 11 . P Nivon. 40-544 MCWAC (58) (C) Miss L Russel 8 104...Mr M Bradburne (7)

-3SP04 WILD BROOK (19) B Elison 7 10 3 D Parker RP58-P MICHALIGHTY MAN (6) (D) E Carre 11 10 1 W Dwan 3FF-6 DRAGONS BAY (15) Mas M Reveloy 8 100 . . N Smith

Minimum weight: 10st. Tust handicap weight: Dragons Bay Sai 13tb. BETTING: 3-1 Bold Account, 4-1 Winter Bolte. Juke Box Bilby, 5-1 Movac, 0-1 Cumbertand Blues, Wild Brook, Dragons Bay, 12-1 others

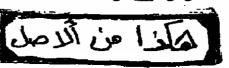
3.20 DUN COW NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 1f

35-26 THUNDERPOINT (28) (CO) T Easterby 5 to 0 L Wyer -2112 NOBLE TOM (10) (BF) P Eccles 5 11 8 Mr B Hassett (7) 12222 PÉNTLAND SOURE (16) (0) J Jefferson 8 11 8.A K Simén (7)

446-PO BAASM (17) J Norton 4 10 2 OFFI-G BALLYKISSANGEL (17) N Bycsoft 4 10 0 ... R Supple B declared -

Minemate weight, 10st. True handicap weight: Bellykssängel 8st 13lb. BETTRIG: 11-t Noble Tass, 3-1 Thumlerpoint, 7-2 Pentland Squire, 5-1 Sql der Mak, 8-1 Babar, 8-1 Crabble's Pride, 14-1 Bassm, 33 Babyts

لكذا من ألاصل





ALAN WATKINS

ON **RUGBY**

for me to comment on last Garforth at tight head. week. Both Woodward and fair to us observers. Sometimes I was right at the time, sometimes wrong.

After Woodward had announced his team, I was almost it certainly wrong. I should have chosen Tim Stimpson at full- all had tremenduus matches. back, John Bentley and Certainly the hacks did. Matt left). Adedayo Adehayo on the Perry saved at least one try. Phil wings. Nick Greenstock at de Glanville did everything outside-centre and Matt Daw-

Admittedly three of my the England manager, Roger selections, Stimpson, Dawson of having an illusive wing such Uttley, are fond of saying that and Regan, put in an appear- as Peter Jackson or the underevent and that hindsight is al- arriving from the substitutes' ways perfect. This is not entirely bench. It may be, for one can tomer such as Peter Thompson never be certain about these or Rory Underwood on the left. things, that my selection would In the present England team just have contrived to beat the the sides have been reversed. All Blacks. Somehow I doubt

that was asked of him, Kyran Leicester side? He switched

land's team to play New Regan would have come in as Zealand was delayed by the Regan would have come in as Zealand disintegration in the seasun. He came to Leicester Healey's. There is no one more hindsight on my part there. This Zealand was delayed by the land. Zealand was delayed by the hooker and someone else - I first half. Rees and Austin as a scrum-half to replace likely to win fewer caps then he coach, Clive Woodward, quite was not sure precisely who, but Healey turned out to be the Aadel Kardooni, who is now rightly so. But it was too late someone - instead of Darren sharpest pair of wings England with Bedford. Leicester's Director of have produced in years.

There is an English tradition it is easy to he wise after the ance among Saturday's heroes, estimated Dickie Guest un the right and a more direct cuswith the more fundamentalist Rees un the right (where he earlier in the season. Does these days, Does Woodward, My hypothetical discards prefers to be, having played previously for England on the

Healey now going to play in the

Rughy, Boh Dwyer, has recently played Healey in his old position, with the Fijian Waisele Serevi, normally an illusive outside-half, at scrum-half, and vice-versa. From Serevi's point of view and from Dwyer's as well - this experiment did not prove an un- be familiar with those lines of qualified success when Leicester met Bath at Welford Road about which we hear so much anyone, by the way, still remember club matches after the last four weeks?

Dwycr must surely be inclined to restore Healey to the position he was hired to fill. Bracken's quickly-tapped from wing to scrum-half when But this is not in England's would have been the same as

deserves than the versatile player. Usually the player whu suffers for this reason is someone who can switch between lock, No 6 and No 8. It is rare in the modern game to find a wing whu can play scrum-half,

But international hacks have to specialise. They must running and angles of attack himself a former Leicester player, now politely ask Dwyer to pick Healey as a wing? And, if he does, what does Dwyer say

to Woodward? I leave it at that. In the back row my selection

Among the forwards, Mark penalties caused the New he was at Orrell in the 1995-96 interest. It is certainly not in Woodward's. There is no Chris Sheasby and Tim Rodher, and on the forgotten Ben Clarke too, but Woodward has now put together one of the fastest trios in the world.

The difference hetween his regime and thuse of his two predecessors, Jack Rowell and Geoff Cooke, is that, while they would field whenever possible a hack row consisting entirely of No 8's, he has chosen one of No 7s for Lawrence Dallagliu has often played in this position for Wasps. Woodward has done this without any substantial sacrifice of size. Both Richard Hill and Dallaglio are solid citizens, tall for their age as well.

I am particularly delighted by the success of Neil Back. He in the 1996 Pilkington Cup.

go back south-wes will give encouragement to thousands of schoolboys who are not going to reach six feet hut whose natural position is open-side flanker. And he has met so many setbacks in his career that it is pleasant to see him prospering at last.

His success has been the consequence of the change in England's style. This depends un keeping the ball in the hand and refusing to commit too many forwards to the hreakdown. Styles can alter. Fashiuns may change. Luckily for Back, he has in rugby terms lived long enough to see his hour come at last. I am glad about this, even though I still think he got off far too lightly for jostling the referee as he did after Bath's win over Leicester

Woodward's imaginative leadership challenges the necessity of change

If England's four-week Test series against the southern hemisphere heavyweights was an exercise in sporting suicide, last weekend's Twickenham finale provided incontrovertible proof of the existence of life after death. While applauding the national team's

reincarnation as a trail-blazing band of 21st century total rugby addicts, there may be upheavals ahead.

Paul Grayson's third and equalising penalty nine minutes from the end of Satnrday's phenomenal England-New Zealand extravaganza at Twickenham was always likely to bring the house down and sure enough, the roar of acclamation travelled the soundwaves from Super 12 lookalike. Richmond to Auckland via Johannesrugby town that matters south of the equator. Yet the cheers were almost drowned out by the rush of a force 10 gale emanating from the boardrooms of the 24 Premiership clubs. The sighs of relief would have blown Jonah Lomu clean off his feet.

"Thank God for that," said one high-profile Premiership director of rugby. "We've shown we can live with one of the great All Black sides and managed it with players who have come through the club system, so perhaps we'll hear a hit less about restructuring, second tiers and bloody divisional rugby." Don't het on it, old bean. The immense progress achieved by Clive Woodward over the undulating course of his first four Tests at the England helm may soon he undermined by yet another outhreak of bloodshed in the corridors of answer to that one.

tand's structure is not so much flawed as laughable. There is, he says, nowhere near enough English talent on regular disptay in the shop window provided by the clubs. (Quite right too. It is sheer lunacy that 50 per cent of the playing population of the Premiership should be unavailable to the national selectors. In New Zealand, John Hart has the choice uf all hut hatf a dozen Super 12

What is more. Woodward continues,

the strictly limited number of Englandthemselves first-team rugby are not performing at a sufficiently high level to enlighten the national selectors as to their Test calibre, Hence the "second tier" wretched history - that is precisely what he is talking about.

So too is Fran Cotton, once a ballowed folk hero of the England front row hut John Scott hit the mountain tops almost now, in his latest guise as vice-chairman of the Rugby Football Union's management board, the professional clubs' No 2 bogeyman. (Bogeyman No 1 is, of course, Cliff Brittle, Cotton's chairman and bosom pal). Their preferred option is to hijack the European scene, either by fielding regional teams in the existing (and hugely successful) Heineken Perry and David Rees spring from? Cup or abandoning the competition altogether in favour of a provincial

Both possibilities amount to worsthurg. Durban, Sydney and every other case scenarios for the clubs, whose All Blacks of Lomu, Josh Kronfeld. Anpower and prestige would be fatally diminished. Would Heineken, Allied

BY CHRIS **HEWETT**

Dunbar and Carlsberg-Tetley continue to pump money into cluh competitions if all the meaningful action was taking place on a provincial stage? Certainly not. By the same yardstick, would the supporters leave their winter firesides to watch the South-West tackle a Midi-Pyrenees Select at a threequarters-empty soccer stadium in Bristol? We all know the

To make matters more combustible According to the coach himself, Eng- still, Woodward is now talking about luring any hright young things that might catch his eye in rugby league, slapping a contract in front of them and loaning them out to the clubs for a bit of work experience. The idea has its merits, as anyone who witnessed Gary Connolly's performances for Harlequins last season might testify. But will the clubs play ball as they watch their pre-eminent position in England's rugby landscape being under- trators than anything that may be stirring mined by the Twickenham regionalists? on the far side of the Severn Bridge. We know the answer to that one, too.

qualified players who can guarantee is a profound, yet incredibly simple one: that individuals make things happen, not committees. Woodward himself has demonstrated that a coach with bold, imaginative ideas and the courage to play theory and while Woodward avoids the game oo a broad canvas can equal the phrase "divisional rugby" like the and, at times, even better the best. You plague - and with good reason, given its want proof? Look at the back row, where intuitive selection has presented England with their most gifted hreakaway unit since Roger Uttley, Tony Neary and two decades ago.

Woodward has also given Austin Healey the chance to make a real name for himself as an international wing and when the injury backlog clears, he will offer the same opportunity to Mike Catt at outside centre. As for the alleged shortage of new talent, where the hell did Matt Their selections were so far out of left field that it was impossible to see them coming without the aid of hinoculars.

Three years ago, Laurie Mains made drew Mehrtens and Glen Osborne at a time when their own families were having difficulty recognising them. Woodward, bolstered by John Mitchell's hard edge and Phil Larder's genius for defensive organisation, has managed something comparable.

Which is more than can be said for the Celtic nations, who look less like second-class citizens than disenfranchised refugees shamhling from one

soup kitchen to another. The slaughters inflicted by sundry All Blacks, Wallabies and Springboks on the fields of Duhlin and Edinhurgh confirmed, if confirmation were needed, that neither Ireland nor Scotland could even begin to hupe for anything better than a quarter-final place in the 1999 World Cup. Divisional or provincial rugby for England? Ask Richie Dixon and Brian Ashton about it.

Wales were also on the receiving end of an All Black hiding, although adventurous choices in the back row (come in Colin Charvis and Scott Quinnell) and at half-back (come in Arwel Thomas) would give them a puncher's chance of gatecrashing the England-France private party in this season's Five Nations. It is, however, true to say that English rugby has more to fear from its own adminis-



Matt Perry proved that new English talent can emerge despite reservations about the system

Old comrades turned rival Blues fully prepared to exploit showcase

As rugby union hurtles into the the professional world the Varsity match remains one of the last bastions of the amateur game. But amid the rugger buggers at Twickenham today David Liewellyn firids two young men chasing a dream of professionalism.

Take two men, one an aspiring solicitor, the other in the foothills of a medical career and ask them what they would like to do when they leave univer-

sity and you might be surprised. While the majority of the twentysomethings who step out at Twickenham today for the Varsity match will regard it as the pinnacle of their personal rugby mountain, at least two players, one on each side, have a very different view.

centre, Mark Denney, is currently reading Law at St Edmund's College with the intention of becoming a solicitor; Oxford University's tight-head prop, Adam Reuben, is studying for a Diptoma in Medical Studies, having graduated MBChB from Bristot University. he still has to complete his two pre-registration jobs as a surgical and medical house officer.

Both professions have carefully structured career paths; both have entailed long and demanding academic study in very competitive fields; it is unthinkable that anyone would do more than contemplate putting the promise of such jobs

for life on to the hack-hurner. But that is what Denney and Reuben hope to do. Both men are keen to dip their toes in professional rugby and are prepared to tread water as far as their 'real' careers are concerned. University leam-mates this differing views.

Cambridge University's afternoon's tusste for the edged opportunity to turn the of months; it was only preheadquarters of English rugby into a showcase, a shop window in which to parade their skills for anyone who might be interested

Neither plans to dive headfirst into the game's murky professional waters, however They would both prefer to compromise by becoming part-time players, thus allowing them the opportunity to stay in touch with the real world, which is where

their long-term ambitions lie. Denney has already tasted pay-for-play as a professional with Bristol and he is fairly dismissive of it. "I've really enjoyed coming back into amateur rugby from the professional game," says the 22-year-old History graduate. "At least I'm no longer sitting around for long periods of the day wondering

what I'm going to do next." Reuben too has had a sniff So for these two former Bristol of the pro game, albeit with

"Before I came up to Oxford 1 played in the match against with the depth they have - they Dr Niall Hogan for advice, but Bowring Bowl represents a gilt- I was with Cardiff for a couple Brive and I enjoyed the life, what little t saw of it. season, when a couple of their

OXFORD v CAMBRIDGE

"Cardiff have encouraged

props were unavailable for var- me to stay in touch and see how ious reasons, but I was paid, and things are after Christmas but

Kick-off: 20 (ITV)

at Twickenham						
R Maher*University, capt	15	P Surridge*Hughes Hall				
N Booth Worcester	14	N WalnesSt Cathanne's				
N LarsenLincoln	13	M Robinson				
B RudgeKebie	12	M Denney St Edmund's				
R PollockKeble	Ш	N HIII*St Edmund's				
T Jensen®St Anne's	10	R Ashforth* Peterhouse				
N Hogan*Merton	9	R ElitottSt Edmund's				
R LehnerSt Anne's	1	G Reynolds* Hughes Hall				
M CollardSt Anne's	2	T Murphy*Si Edmund's, capt				
		M Foulds Sidney Susce-				

T Jen: N Ho R Leh T Eisenhauer*.....St Anne's 4 R Bramley*......St Edmund's M Orsler*......Christ Church 6 M Hyde*.....St Edmund's

have four international props -I'd be reluctant to go hack just to play second team rugby or sit

Denney still has two years of Law followed by a further 12 months at Law School, he has holiday work lined up and while he says the firm are sympathetic he knows he has to be pragmatic. "There is a certain challenge off the field, which is that I have to accommudate and combine these two careers. Playing rughy as a part-time professional would be ideal," he admits.

For Reuhen, two years Denney's senior, things are not so clear-cut. He cannot postpone his pre-registration year for much longer. He has to find a balance. "I've spent five years at med school and I wouldn't want to think that I've dune all that for nothing, Anyway I curtainly would not tie myself permanently to professional rugby," he said.

He could ask his scrum-half

says: "Niall has already done his pre-registration. He is at a different stage, although t think he intends putting his medical career un the back hurner while he establishes himself as Ire-

land's first choice, "My plan at the moment is to do my house jobs next year. Of course if I do that then I will have to give up rugby during that time, because it is not possible to continue playing a decent standard of rugby when, as a house officer, you are working for 80, 90 or a 100 hours a week. Ideally I would like to go parttime and at least combine some degree of medical studies with

a professional rughy career." Denney voices the mission: "It is just a case of finding a club that is prepared to work along those lines. I doubt very much if I will be going back to Bristol. They haven't contacted me at all this year."

And so to the means to that end. Finding the club. Reuben

says, quite candidly: "I am hoping the Varsity match will be a showcase for me."

Denney agrees, adding: "I regard the Varsity match very much as an opportunity for me to show what I can do." Today all 30 - and the re-

placements - will want to show what they can do in front of a sell-out 75,000 crowd.

Cambridge, winners for the last three years and with an overall superiority of 54 wins to Oxford's 48, are favorrites to repeat the feat, and with nine old Blues in the side that is understandable. But the Dark Blues are no mugs this year. They have half a dozen old hands themselves and a pack of awesome potential. The Light Blues have a talented set of threequarters

getting the ball out to them. Both captains promise an expansive game. Denney and Reuben, among others, will be looking to expand their horizons.

and, with a competitive and

skilful hack-row, are adept at

المكناس الاجل

imbledon

edhomes in on Kelley

27/SPORT

FOOTBALL

Wimbledon may go back to south-west London

Wimbledon look set for a return Ellis presented a consignment to south-west London after a council feasibility study will give the Dons clearance to move into the greyhound Plough Lane ground.

Sam Hammam, one of Wimbledon's owners, had responded to a demonstration by fans opposed to a proposal to move to Dublin by calling on them to lobby Merton council.

He labelled council leaders as "callous and cowardly", saying he was looking into the move to Ireland out of frus- la's return flight from Romania tration and bopelessness" at a fortnight ago raised £1,200. their refusal to help the club find a new ground on their bome patch for the past 19 years.

But a council spokesman said yesterday that Wimbledon had never submitted a full planning application for a new are working with Sam Hammam Nigerian Football Association. NFL on Sunday and we do want a resolution to the situation.

"It is not the council's role or responsibility to build a new stadium for Wimbledon Football Club. We bave no money to do that but if they identify a possible site, we will do all we can to see if it is suitable for a stadium."

Council leader Mike Brunt. who only took up his position in May and is a Wimbledon supporter who has watched the club from the terraces for the past 20 years, met Hammam two weeks ago and another meeting study into a redevelopment of Division Port Vale. the greyhound stadium into ab Sky and Joden expected to all purpose prompt featuring the sea of the with Man-Premiership football and grey-

bound racing. There was more uncertainty for the club yesterday with the news that Peter Reid wants Wimbledon's midfielder Robbie Earle to lead Sunderland's promotion push and is ready to make an offer of over £1m.

Aston Villa have admitted that some of the food they donated to orphans during the recent trip to Romania to play but insist it was still safe to eat. full time. The Villa ebairman, Doug

of tinned food to an orphanage, but a Villa spokesman admitted yesterday: "Some of the cans had gone slightly past their stadium near their former sell-date - hut they were still perfectly edible.

"Our suppliers have informed us that it is common practice for companies to donate tinned products to charities and other worthy causes as long as the canned food is still OK."

The cluh are to hold a collection for the orphans at Villa Park tonight. A collection on Vil-

Terry Venables is expected to hear today whether he bas been chosen to coach Nigeria in next year's World Cup finals although he said before departing with Australia for the Confederation Cup in Saudi Arabia that

Keith Branagan, the Bolton long-standing problem in Saturday's defeat at Ewood Park.

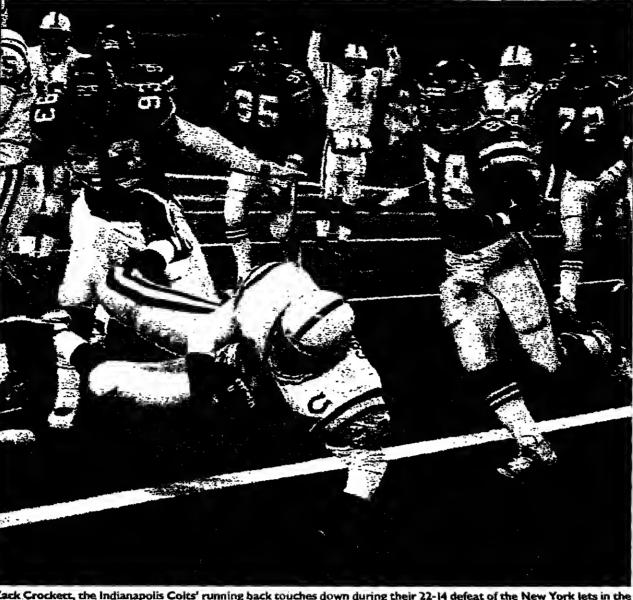
down a transfer request from inickname of "Slash" for his runmidfielder Lars Bohinen, who i ning and passing prowess, threw is concerned that his lack of for three touchdowns and ran for first-team opportunities at two more as the Pittsburgh Ewood Park could hamper his Steelers beat Denver 35-24 to chances of playing in the World: earn a place in the NFL play-offs Cup finals.

Tottenham have moved their

Chester United as their Sunday game and that they will screen Tottenham on Monday night. ITV will show Everton and Newcastle as their live game.

The FA has appointed one of the country's most senior police officers to head their security operation in the build up to World Cup finals. Brian Hayes, the deputy commissioner of the Metropolitan where Cambridge University Police, will be seconded to the beat Cambridge City 3-1. City Steaua Bucharest in the Uefa. FA on a part-time basis until 30 dropped to third place. Cup was past its sell-by date - April, from when be will work

- Catherine Riley



ground to them. He said: "We he had no contact with the Zack Crockett, the Indianapolis Colts' running back touches down during their 22-14 defeat of the New York Jets in the

goalkeeper, may need a hernia Stewart's slash-and-burn method operation after aggravating a

Blackhurn have turned Kordell Stewart, living up to his record for rushing yards in a on Sunday.

Stewart completed 18 of 29 FA Cup tie against Fulham to passes for 303 yards and ran 10 Monday 5 January as north times for 49 yards to lead a London neighbours Arsenal : Steelers fightback from 21-7 beis lined up soon. On their are also due to play at home on hind. Jerome Bettis ran 24 agenda will be the results of a Saturday 3 January against First: times for 125 yards and moved within 106 yards of the club

season.

However, the Steclers were not assured of a play-off place until the New York Joss were upset 22-14 at home by Indianapolis, the NFL's bottom team with only two victories.

Pittsburgh also gained the lead of the AFC Central Division and a possible first-round bye when Jacksonville lost 26-20 to New England in a rematch of last year's AFC play-off final.

Patriois ended Jacksonville's home winning streak of 13 games despite the absence of their leading rusher Curtis Martin and receiver Terry Glenn.

Kansas City also earned a place in the play-offs when beating Oakland 30-0. With Denver's loss, the Chiefs and Denver, already through, now share the lead of the AFC West Division. The Chiefs have the edge in the chase for bome ad-Drew Bledsoe threw for 234 vantage because they finish the

yards and two touchdowns as the regular season against two clubs with losing records, San Diego and New Orleans.

Seven play-off places are still at stake with each clubs having two games to play before the regular season ends on 22 December. San Francisco and the reigning Super Bowl champions Green Bay are already through. Green Bay beat Tampa Bay 17-6 in a key NFC Central Division game to join San Francisco, who beat Minnesota 28-17, with a first-round bye.

Cambridge University prove upsetting for city counterparts

in the regional leagues, only Robinsons, 3-I winners away to Clevedon in the West Premier. secured maximum points. The weekend's higgest surprise was in the Adnams East Premier

. The students gave an early warning to Oxford of their intention to retain the Deloitte & the fourth year engineering

In a bleak weekend for leaders Touche Varsity Bowl which they student Henry Eard saved a won against the odds last season. Playing without their captain Mike Meredith and the leading striker John Mayer, they came from behind to bear City.

> Gareth Playfair put the University back on terms after an early City goal from their captain Mike Mitcham, Murk Routledge restored their lead, with the turning point coming when

penalty stroke. Goals in the last six minutes from Dave gave the University the points.

In an all round team performance Thierry Gruislin, the Belgium international, and Alister Cotton, son of the former Great Britain manager and player Bernie, were outstanding. Eastcote, with goals from Peter Gibbons and Danny Geach.

threw away a 2-1 lead against Wincbester in the ESL South Premier to lose 3-2 but still have Heathcote and Mike Stather a two-point cushion over Chichester, who beat Trojans 4-2. In the North, Neston, beat-

en 2-0 by Sheffield Bankers, still hold a one-point lead ahead of Norton, while in the DTZ Midland Premier Khalsa, held to a 3-3 draw by Harborne, lead Edghaston also by one point. - Bill Colwill

How rallying's fast master turned tradition on its head

David Coulthard? Johnny Herbert? There is a powerof these, but instead Colin McRae.

It is difficult enough to compare grand prix drivers across the generations let alone exponents of racing with raily men. However, competed in railies and while the Britons in F1 cannot be considered the equal of Michael Schumacher, McRae is widely recognised as the most gifted driver in rallying.

And aithough you can debate forever the relative merits of racing and rally drivers. the latter fraternity have generally had the better of recorded dual-discipline challenges. McRae's counsel rests his case.

gremlins from the engine of his Subaru, won the last three rounds of this year's world championship and missed out was in the 1955 Mille Miglia. on his second title by one while his finest grand prix point. Just a few years ago, success was probably his sin-

sucb a sce-

nario for a BOOKS FOR defeat of Fer-British rally BOOKS FOR rariat Monadriver would have been un-

thinkable. tradition and anti-British prejudice is captured in "Colin McRae - Rallying's Fast Master" by David Williams (Haynes Publishing, £12.99). "His awesome capabilities have become impossible to overlook," the author says.

McRae fits perfectly the mould of the reluctant superstar. He is enduringly and endearingly unpretentious, yet has made concessions to the demands of sport at the highest level. He has given up his bacon butties (it is alleged) for a healthier diet and adheres to a strict training regime.

The book leaves you cravabout himself, about others. But then he is not the most expressive character in motor, sport, not with words anyway. When be is in the car it is a different matter: eloquence on wheels.

Who is Britain's best driver never to have won a world championship? That is easier, Indeed, there are those who would suggest Stirling Moss was the greatest British driver of them all. Moss has left almost as

many books as despairing

Who is Britain's best driver opponents in his wake and in motor sport? Damon Hill? even now, 35 years since his retirement, he is inspiring literary and photographic tribful case for arguing he is none utes. "Stirling Moss - Racing With the Maestro" by Karl Ludvigsen (Haynes Publishing, £24.99) is a worthy ad-

dition to the list. The words recall Moss's extraordinary versatility - he sprints as well as races of many kinds - and his search for perfection in the face of sneering from within a predominantly amateur environment, and - above all - his sportsmanship.

The book's real appeal, however, as Ludvigsen acknowledges, is its picture content. Mainly black and white, they transport us to an age before rampani com-McRae, having evicted the mcrcialism, crash harriers, run-off areas and, in Moss's case, scat-belts.

Moss's most treasured win gle-handed

defeat of Fer-CHRISTMAS co in 1961.

Enzo Ferrari The Scot's defiance of endeavoured to lure the Englishman to Maranello and ultimately the offer of a car built to Moss's specification proved irresistible to the hitherto stubborn patriot. Alas, he was seriously injured at Goodwood three weeks after the deal with Ferrari was agreed and did not compete in grand prix racing again.

The Italian marque's fortunes have fluctuated ever since and "Fifty Years of Ferrari" by Alan Henry (Haynes Publishing, £24.99) records the unfolding drama. Aficionados will be drooling over the pictures here, although the same cannot be ing more from the man, said of the photography in "Ferrari - The Passion and the Pain" by Jane Nottage (Collins Willow, £29.99).

The author's portrayal of life inside the stable of the Prancing Horse is compromised also by political expediencies and sloppy editing, and at £30 you might need a budget of Ferrari's proportions to afford it. But at least some of the technical insight gleaned from two years' dogged investigation should be appreciated by the anoraks.

- Derick Allsop

SPORTING DIGEST

BOXING

5 F 1000

Hamed homes in on Kelley

Prince Naseem Hamed arrived in New York for his World Boxing Organisation title defence in confident mood last night. As expected Hamed, who meets Kevin Kelley at the mecca of boxing, Madison Square Garden, on 19 December, was dismissive of his opponent.

"Something drastic could happen to Kelley in the first round. I don't want to sound awful in saying that, but boxing is win," he said.

"He's been shooting his mouth off a bit and he deserves tu be taken out - and I'll take him out in style. The Brits are coming and going to America as one - and we'll see if we come back losers. When you are with me, you're going on a winning trol. show and you're going to come back a winner."

- it will be Hamed's American debut after signing a multimillion dollar deal with the cable network Home Box Office. game."

"Nerves?" I have to look up that word in a dictionary," Hamed added. "You baven't heard that in my conversation or the word 'losing'. I don't ever

"I want to be in boxing for five, six, seven, eight years, as long as I want. The money I'm going to make is unlimited multi-millions."

think about negatives.

Hamed is looking for a properry in the London area and boxing. All I want to do is maybe a house in America, but added: "I can't see me emigrating out there."

The last time Hamed left Terminal Three for the United States, he was involved in his fracas with Chris Eubank, which earned both men a warning from the British Board of Con-

Hamed concluded: "I've realised the man, at 30-odd, is trying to make publicity out of me. steal the limelight, pull publicity stunts because be's out of the Herl: Bultimore 31 Secrite 21: Chicago 20 Suffato 3; Jenisonwille 20 New England 26; Kansas Chy 30 Octobrd 0: New Crisons 27 St Jouis 34; Philadelphia 21 NY Genes 31; Philadelphia 21 NY Genes 31; Philadelphia 21 NY Genes 31; Philadelphia 21; Nampa 5ay 8 Green Bay 7; Ancona 28 Westengton 32; NY Jets 42 thodarepola 22; San Diego 3 Acasta 41, San Francisco 28 Minnesota 17; Mann 33 Detroit 33

Basketball

NBA: Toronto 83 Detroit 93; Philadechar 93 New York 78; Milwaukee 97 Seatte 91. Phoenor 97 Indiana 93 (of); Denver 100 LA Cappers 92; Secremento 99 Golden State 24, LA Lekera 84 Okveland 84

Wille Pastrano, who began boxing to lose weight and eventually won the worlds light heavyweight title in 1963, has died at the age of 52 from cancer.

Cricket The veteran Worcestershire all-rounder The veteran wordessering an-ouncer form Moody has been recalled to the Australian side for the limited overs international with South Africa in Melbourne today. Moody replaces pace bowler Glerin McGrath, who humad a stomach muscle in Sunday's three-wicket with over New Zeatand.

Wickel Wall (Veri New Zeebank SHEFFIELD SHIELD (Perith): Western Australia 404 for 9 dec (7 Mood), 354 and 556 lar 9 dec (1) Earger 151: Tusmania 360 for 8 dec (1) Boon 466 and 175 to Angel 4 of 1 Med-em Australia von by 155 tons. Equestrianism VOLVO WORLD CUP QUALIFIER (Seville):

1 Balactin du Mesral (X Cautter): Fri cher 2
Nine homes bed industry Virtual Village
Tecosop (M. Whateker, G.): 4 aut 3. Sefected

Football Sizine Dalley, the former Wolves and Manchester City player, has been sacked as manager of Teltora United after only four months in charge of the Vacuches Conference club - his first ITV have confirmed that they will screen live the third round FA Cup be between Everton and Newcastie on Sunday 4 January (20) Anderlecht have re-appointed Dunch

man Aria Haan as coach to succeed Flene Vandersycker, who was sacke last week. Haan coached the Brusse dub between 1985 and 1987. CAUD Detween 1965 and 1997.

NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE Fortune changes: Fri 18 Oec. Oldhern v Weisall, Scripter v Chester, Donicasser v Retherham, Scarbarough v Barnet (a) from 20 Dec; Fri 18 Jan Stoke v Bractord Ctyliften 17 Jan

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE Fixture change: FM 19 Dec. Stevenege v Chetaratum (from 20 Dec.)

changes Fri 19 Doc. Stevenage v Chelarchum from 20 Dect.

SUNDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Imperiadional Intendity (Johannesburg): South Africa 1 (Morabe 17) Brailes (Permano III Belvero 37) Relian Leaguet: Forestora 1 (Morbos 57) Parmar 1 (Apother 54) Speniario II (Apother 54) Speniario II (Apother 54) Speniario II (Apother 54) Africac Bibso 4 (Desburga 12 Parmar 23 Africac Bibso 4 (Desburga 12 Parmar 23 Africac Bibso 4 (Desburga 14 Parmar 24 Africac Bibso 4 (Desburga 14 Parmar 14 Berguet 14 Apother 14 (Desburga 14 Parmar 14 Berguet 15 (Desburga 14 Parmar 14 Berguet 15 (Desburga 15 Vieses Aprillam 3 (Gratiquet 15 Vieses Aprillam 3 (Apother 54) Desburga 15 (Desburga 15 Vieses Aprillam 3 (Apother 54 Parmar 24 (Desburga 15 Vieses Aprillam 3 (Apother 54 Parmar 25 (Desburga 15 Vieses 15 Apother 54 (Desburga 15 Vieses 15 Apother 55 (Desburga 15 Vieses 15 Vieses 15 Apother 55 (Desburga 15 Vieses 15 Vi

Ice hockey Manchester's Dominic Maltais has been barned for six matches and fined 2500 efter kicking an opponent dur-ing Storms 5-3 defeat against Not-tingham Panthers on 25 November

to 5 Washington 4 Chacago 7 Ed Olympic Games The International Olympic Committee has lifted its ban on Ecuador from the Olympic movement. The IOC sus-pended the country in September be-cause it was unhappy with the way it was running its national committee.

Rugby League First and Second Division clubs meet today to work out their structure for next season, with the status duo of two from season, with the status quo or two drivisions likely to remain in place, even though there are now only 19 dubs outside. Super League Black pool Gladiators, whose funding was stopped by the clube last month, could make a late but for reinstatement.

bed for reinstatement.

Featherstone Rovers, one First Division chio with Super League ambitions, say they will allow they Great Britain prop. Sieve Molloy, to leave.

SILX CUT CHALLENGE CUP Second-round draw, Charleston & Saddeworth Rengers, Essimod Dragons & Leeds University Worth Village & Thornful Moldgreen & Sudah Refail & Look Lane, Folly Lane or Normanion Endplies & Askern Hunster Marrors & Miscon, Brit & Laigh East, Walney Central V Langh Miners Rangers, Wooken Rovers & Goldman SI Annes Havdood & Wistermand Stammergery & Fammorth, Wigen Roseendgot Walst had Myron Warmors Miscon Roseendgot Walst had Myron Warmors & Mocken Called Called Control of Carloto, Oversiden & Wigger Statistics Density & Moor & Called Statistics. Not Person & Carloto, Oversiden & Margers & Mar Dockers. They to be played weekend of 20 Oceanies.

Rugby Union

Snooker

irelands seven-match tour to South Africa next May and June will include two Tests against the Springboks, ire-land will play Soutend under rights for the first time in an A international at Domybrook on 6 February. A sn-bin system will be introduced by the trish RFU, on an experimental ba-sis, in AlB Leagua Divisions One and Two matches from 3 January.

GERMAN OPEN (Bingen): T Drago (Mal) bi O Hara (Aus) 5:3

A bomb that ripped a hote in Magnus Larsson's rented car last week was placed at random under the car minutes before it exploded. Vaxio police said yesterday Weightlifting

Meng Xian Juan set a clean and jerk world record of 17/5kg and won all three gold medals in the women's 54kg catgory in Thatiand yesterday.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Chang Mai, Thel):
Men's 64kg; 1 Xiac Jian Gang (China) tratich
155, 154 1750, Iolal 375; 2 H Sueymanoga (Tian
155, 1700, 350, 3 A Meliktov (Azer) 1325, 1725,
305,0 Women's 54kg; 1 Meng Xian Juan (China) 1575, 1775, 2050; 2 R Song Hai (N Kor) 850,
100 1750; 3 S Derseeng (Thai) 850, 100, 1650.

TODAY'S . NUMBER

mers claiming they failed a drugs test because they are a spiked cake. Natalya Meshcheryakova, Vladimir Pyshnenko and Olge Kochetkova, who all tested positive for the sterold metandiegne, say they were set up by an unnamed fourth swimmer who added the drug to a cake she had baked.

The number of Pussian swim-

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated UEFA CUP THIRD ROUND SECOND LEG Aston Villa (1) v St Bucharest (2) (7.45) ___ Aston Villa (1) v St Blucharest (2 (7.45) ...
Other ties: Lazo (2) v Report Visnes (0) (7.5);
Scheife (4) (0) v Braga (0); Auberte (1) v Twente
Erschede (1) (7.0), Atheroc Mednic (1) v Crosta Zagreb (1) (830); Internazionale (0) v Strasbourg (2) (7.46); Vill. Bockmit (2) v Alax (4);
Spartak Moscow (0) v Karisrufte (0) (5.0).

bourg (2) (745): Vf. Bochum (2) v Agax (5,50).

NATIONWIDE POOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION
Charlton v Sheffield Utd (7.45).
Portsmouth v Wolves (7.45).
AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD
MORTHERN SECTION FIRST ROUND
Cardisle v Oldham (7.45).
Conclusive v Rochdale
Hull v Scarborough.
Preston v Darlington (7.45).
Preston v Darlington (7.45).
AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD
SOUTHERN SECTION FIRST ROUND
Barnet v Walsale (7.45).
AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD
SOUTHERN SECTION FIRST ROUND
Barnet v Walsale (7.45).
Cerdiff v Mallwall
Fulbam v Walsord (7.45).
Leyton Orient v Cotchester (7.45).
Northampson v Plymouth (7.45).
Southerd v Wyconba (7.45).
GIM VALVALL CONFERENCE
Halfiss v Northwich (7.45).
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION Aberdeen v Celtic (7.45)..... Dundee Utd v Heerts (7.45) TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP FIRST-ROUND REPLAY

FA OF WALES INVITATION CUP Group B: Newtown v Merithy Tydtil.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH; Dr Martens
League zi v FA zi rat Gloucesser Chyl.

UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Aftreton v Hyde; Findley v Winsford; Martine v Ageringion Stanley, Runom v Lancaster. UnliffliaFinal Division Cup first round: Writton Abon
v Tarlford. Second round: Beloer v Buston;
Droytscien v Fiscon; Harrogate Town v Lincoin

Statement

HYMAN LEAGUE First Division: Seri-hamsted v Aldershot (745) Third Division: Flackwell
Hastn v Harlow, Ford Utd v Southal; Ware v
Lewes (745). Wingare & Finchley valley (745)
JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Division: Sudbury Wanderers v Soham (745).
Leepus Cup second round (746): Green
Yamouth v Warboys; Hadeligh v Gorleston.
Lowestoff v Hastn: Sudbury Town v Norwooth
Utd. Tiptner v Woodbridge.

Hast Old MIMPOSTY LEAGUES. Become for birth

Utd. Tiptnee v Woodbridge.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Bemerton Heath
Harlegons v BAT Sports; Bournemouth FC v
East Cowes Vics; Portsmouth FIN v Newbury. East Cowes Vies; Portsmouth RN v Nevabury.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Division; Arnoid v Hasfield Main.
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE:
Kings Norton v Stapenhil (745); West Midlands,
Police v Barwell.

Protect v Barwell.
UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Di-vision: Languay Sports v Hassocks; Pagham v Horsham YMCA; Portfield v Shoreham (7:5).
John O'Hare League Cup third round;
Burgest Fill v Whitehawk. WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Division: Ramsgate v Thamesmead (745); Whystable v Stade Green (745). stable v Sinde Green (745).

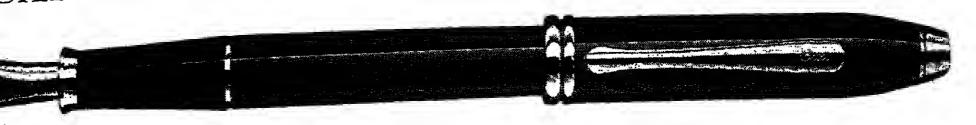
PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Sheffield Wednesday v Derby (77). Pirat Division: Covernty v Sunderland (77), Manchester City v West Borometh Abon (78) at Althricham); Notes County v Huddersfield (70).

He TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Second round: Backgool v Everton (70): Evater City v Arsenal, Queens Park Plangars v Scutternd Und (70) try veoling); Plymouth Angyle v Fullson (70); Wycombe Wandisers v Welling Und. Second-round replay: Tromere Roves v Shaffield Und (70); Crystal Palicce v Norwich City (al Plough Lane).

Rugby Union VARSITY MATCH (for The Boaring Bowl): Co-ford University v Cambridge University (20) (al Two:kensiam) REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Royal Navy v Royal New Zealand Navy (70) (at US Portsmouth).
CLUB MATCH: Bristol University v University of West of England (730) (at Bristol RFC).

Other sports

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Yorke injury threatens Villa's chance of progress

Aston Villa fly the flag for England in the Uefa Cup tonight. But, reports Phil Show, they might have to overcome a 2-1 deficit against Steaua Bucharest without their Tobagan

talisman.

Europe have helped to keep Aston Villa's anticlimactic season alive, may miss the second leg of their Uefa Cup third-round tie against Steaua Bucharest at Villa Park tonight because of an injury which has mystified the cluh's medical staff.

The Trinidad and Tobagan international followed up his winner against Athletic Bilbao with a potentially precious

ceded twice in quick succession. However, he limped out of Saturday's victory over Coventry and was unable to join an otherwise fully fit squad in training yesterday.

Brian Little, the Villa manager, said Yorke's problem had defeated diagnosis, "It started out as a sharp pain in his heel. then moved to the hack of the foot. It could be a calf, or a away goal in the Romanian tendon connected with the

Dwight Yorke, whose goals in capital after Villa had con- Achilles, or it might just disappear. "Dwight's very important to

us - his availability will settle the team and the formation - but I wouldn't gamble on anyone if it could mean a long-term injury."

Little will probably restore Fernando Nelson and Ian Tavlor to midfield, where Yorke has been operating as a deep-lying attacker while Savo Milosevic main striking roles. Lee the advantage. They start one be tough but it it suit us playing

SKI JUMPING

Hendric, 20, who scored against Coventry after replacing Yorke. could be used as a straight replacement but is more likely to start on the bench.

Villa, striving for a place in the Uefa Cup quarter-finals for the first time since their manager partnered Andy Gray up front 20 years ago, have won their last three home matches. But Little said: "We're kidding and Stan Collymore hold the ourselves if we think we've got

through on away goals before to push forward, so we can (against Bastial.

Steaua would enjoy playing on the Villa Park pitch, he added in a veiled aside about the poor surface in Bucharest "Their counter-attacking ability is their

major strength." he cautioned. Mihai Stoichita, the Steaua coach, later echoed Little's sentiments. "I'm very confident we'll go through," he said, "It'll

up and knowing they have gone on a decent surface. Villa have exploit the space behind their wing-backs. We always score away from home."

Since the first leg, England and Romania have been paired in next year's World Cup finals. Despite the fact that only two Steaua players, Marius Lacatus and Iosif Rotariu, are in their national squad, Little felt the draw had given the game

Stoichita, an admirer of Glenn Hoddle's attempt to marry traditional English virtues to greater technique. went further: "This game will be like the opening night of the World Cup. Whoever wins will

ge, resi see it as a good omen."
Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman, would view victory in rather more practical terms. He has calculated that the cluh could make £5m by reaching the final.

McCann to sell off his share of Celtic in 1999

plans to sell his shareholding and retire in 18 months' time hut yesterday he said he would ensure there was no hostile take-over of the Scottish Premier League club.

McCann, a Scots-born Canadian who has turned the cluh's finances around since a statement released on the London Stock Exchange that he would retire in mid-1999.

"Suggested take-overs are complete nonsense as I hold just over 50 per cent of the ordinary shares. That makes a takeover impossible without my consent," McCann said.

"Ideally I would like to find a way to make some of my shares available to existing shareholders. However, I think the most likely scenario will be a mixture of existing shareholders and institutions. What scrutiny against Aberdeen. I will guarantee is that ownership of the cluh will not fall into the wrong hands." When McCann bought

146,000 shares, a 51 per cent stake in Cellic, for £9m in

bankruptcy, had a very poor stadium and only 7,100 season ticket-holders.

They are now close to completion of a £30m stadium with seating for more than 60,000. making it the largest in Britain.

The club was now financially secure, more than £20m taking control in 1994, said in had been invested in new players and there were 40,000 season ticket-holders, he said. Celtie shares are currently quoted at £250 pounds each.

The Celtic coach Wim Jansen hopes the imminent arrival of Harald Brattbakk will help to put his team back into title contention at Pittodrie tonight,

With the Norwegian due in Glasgow on Thursday to complete his £2m move from Rosenborg, the likes of strikers Simon Donnelly and Darren Jackson will be under extra

After Saturday's 0-0 draw at Kilmarnock, another hlank would put a serious dent in Celtic's hopes of maintaining a championship challenge. Already six points behind

Fergus McCann, Celtic's owner. 1994, he said the club faced Rangers and seven behind leaders Hearts, Jansen knows his men cannot afford any more slip-ups against Alex Miller's strugglers.

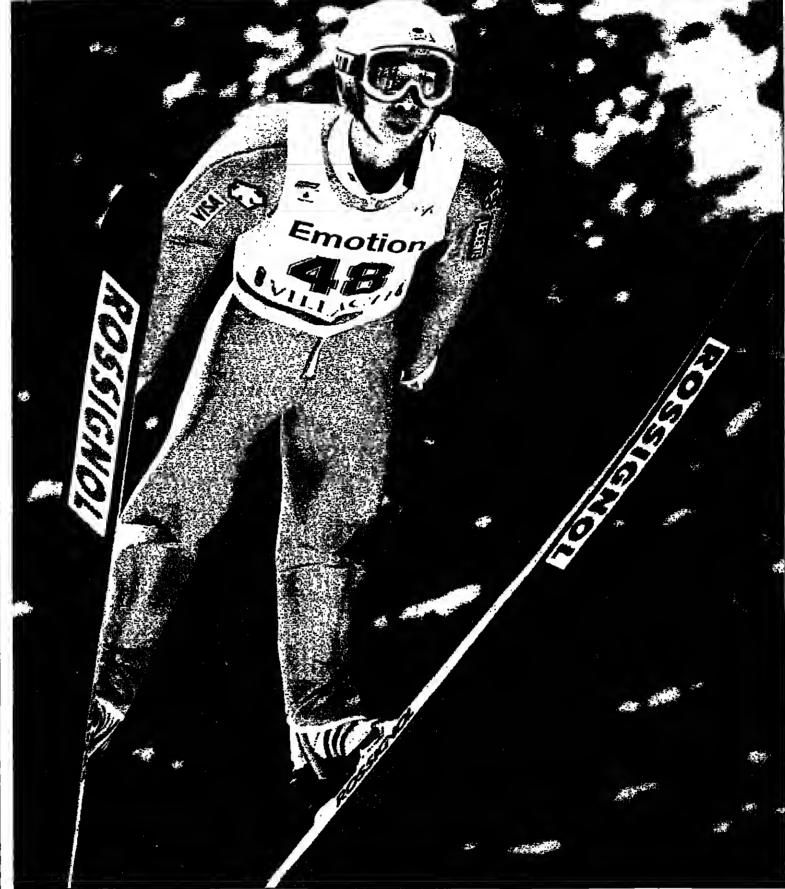
Winger Regi Blinker returns after serving a one-match suspension and looks likely to be asked to provide the ammunition for a lacklustre front line.

Jansen said: "I hope the strikers give me a problem when Harald arrives. If we want to get up the league we know we have to win these type of games and if we lose points here then we make problems for ourselves.

"The whole team didn't really look as sharp on Saturday as they did in our two games against Dundee United.

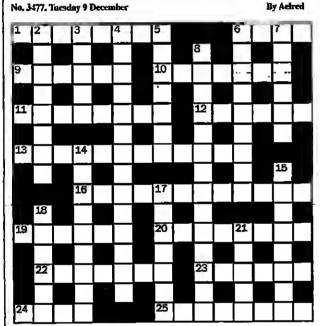
"The way we play they need to be sharp to get back to winning games hut it is the individuals in any system that make the difference."

Sweden's Henrik Larsson looks the most likely partner for Brattbakk when he is ready for action, but Jansen may decide the time has come to give Jackson a place from the start after three substitute appearances on his return from brain surgery.



Masahiko Harada, of Japan, soars through the air in yesterday's ski jumping world championship fourth round in Villach, Austria. Harada won the event - with jumps of 90.5 metres and 95m - ahead of the German Dieter Thoma. Photograph: Gert Eggenberger/AP

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



New hope round universi-

- ty brought back atmoshere of elation (8) Show sorrow for heartless devoutness (4)
- Agreement to produce ains flex (6) My son travelling round
- US city has to find another British have followed teachers like Hazel (8) Feline let toose could kill
- these (6) Extra classes for those not very good at adding? (6,6) 4 Current cute expert has grasped name of slight friend (12)
- Material with which it's possible to take action (6) 6
- Pattern specially made for
- radical (4)
- DOWN
- Count us out after Unionist becomes oily (8) Initially high, very high, cost of doomsday weapon
- Moving pictures by artist
- clients (7) Cold fellow's stiff (6) Two out of four could be
- Reap changes to sharpen sound in this? (8)
- Killer hurts they say, that could account for it (5-9) to be put up? It's elemen
 - tary (7) Criticise soundly a cashier's cigar (9)
- But elm, diseased, has to come down (6) Not told because one's lost? (11-3)
- Most stingy about street poverty criterion (5,4) Almost where William came from to go to
- Awful slob in prayer to forgive (7)
- ative in Foreign Office is a disaster (6)

tions of leg (5)

Jerusalem one time (8)

High time to reverse posi-

ada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St

Henman told by McEnroe to be meaner John McEnroe's advice and sometimes my demeanour is forsake his "good guy" image in

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a hid for tennis greatness. Last week McEnroe told Britain's No 2 that he was "100 nice" and needed to add meanness to his developing game. And following a long chat and 30-minute practice session with the 38-year-old McEnroe at the Royal Albert Hall's ATP Se-

maybe too calm on court,' Henman said. "I can show more emotion and McEnroe implied that if I let my inner feelings out a hit more it could help me. Any time you get advice from someone who has achieved what he

has you should listen." If it means the 23-year-old Oxfordshire player has to lose his "Mr Wonderful" tag in order to become the first Briton

since Fred Perry 61 years ago to win Wimhledon, then so be it.

"I couldn't give a monkey's what people think about me. I want to achieve on a tennis court. If people were against me and didn't like me but I was winning major championships. I'd take that any day of the week." said Henman, who was speaking at the Midland Bank Schools Tennis finals in Telford, yesterday.

But while Henman is eager to learn from the sport's most controversial and colourful character, he disagrees with McEnme's assertion that today's players don't have enough desire.

He rejects McEnroe's boast

during matches but to go to the very, very top I have to be more tennis. "The overall depth in the game is much more now than in McEnroe's day," said Henman, who rose to No 17 in the world this year but saw Greg Rusedski pass him to become Britain's top player and world No 6.

In 1980 there weren't more than a handful of potential winners of the major tournaments. In 1997, 20, 30 or even 40 guys could easily win the top

"You're not going to see me niors Event last weekend. Henthat the Borg-Connors-McEnswearing or breaking rackets roe battles of the late 70s and



Dwight Yorke, Dwight Yorke.

Aston Villa vs Steaua Bucharest live from 7:30 tonight on (5)

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